

## HISTORY OF CARDIGAN CORGIS IN CANADA

Cardigan Welsh corgis have never been abundant in Canada, but they are more familiar now than they were in 1970 or 1950. The Canadian Kennel Club stud book lists one litter of Cardigans bred in Canada before WWII. Miss Helen F. Durie of Toronto Ont. had a litter born 13 March 1939. The dam was a red & white named Maryn # 157833, the sire was Clebryn #157838 owner Mrs H.D.McNamara. There were 4 puppies: Megan (female), red & white, and Twrc (colour unknown), both owned by Mrs McNamara, Llewellyn (male), tricolour, owner Mrs Harold Sloggett, and Drudny (male), red & white, owned by the breeder. Clebryn and Maryn were both purchased from Mrs Roberta Bole in Ohio, USA. Mrs. Bole was the first person to import Cardigans into North America. She received her first in 1931, before the breed was separately recognized. Miss Durie was one of 19 members of the Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America in 1942.

Other early litters in Canada were one from Rozavel Blue Flash x Kern of Corfax, 3/5/59, bred by Mrs. Angela Bevan-Jones of Oromocto, N.B., and another bred by Harold V. Wooddesson of Elora, Ont. from Dewin of Windmill Hill x Caredig Gloynbyw of Kencia. The latter litter was born 3/14/59. Mr. Wooddesson bought both dogs from Marcia Lopeman (Kencia, in the USA). Mrs. Lilian Campbell of Toronto bred a litter in 1952 from Lloygdud Smokie of Kencia by Kencia's Funston, Gleg, Chiel, Buckie, Heather, and Halla, all with the kennel name "of Don Valley". The first three were males, two tris and Buckie who was sable. I thank Helen Jones, Mrs. Bole's granddaughter, for most of the last two paragraphs. Unfortunately, most of Mrs. Bole's detailed records were destroyed in a house fire, so we have only fragments.

At least three people imported the breed into western Canada during the 1950's. However, only two of these showed their dogs, and each bred only a few litters. There may have been others, but unless we crossed paths, I have no way to identify them.

The most prominent early breeder of Cardigans, in British Columbia, under the kennel name Dogdene, was Margaret Head who lived in Armstrong, just up the valley from Kelowna BC. She imported dogs from England. Her first litter appears to have been born in 1959. Her male came from Kentwood, and her bitch from Rozavel. The latter's sire was named Rozavel Blue at Last, and the years were about right, so we may assume that Mrs. Head's bitch was one of the first blue merles in North America. Henry Moulton of Texanda (Pembroke corgis) handled some of her dogs, and his wife Joyce helped with some breedings when US bitches were sent to breed to one male she had. In those days air transport to the BC interior was complex, so Mrs Head sent her male to Joyce in Vancouver. One dog that was particularly successful at shows, in the hands of Henry Moulton, was Ch. Dogdene Blue Me Too, who placed in the (working) Group.

Eleanor and John Cross received a pair of Cardigans in late 1960, to work range cattle on their ranch, the a7, west of Nanton, Alberta. This was one of the older ranches in Alberta, founded in 1886. It is still in family hands after more than 100 years. John's father was A.E. Cross, founder of the Calgary Brewery and one of the original "big four" businessmen who invested in the very first Calgary Stampede in 1919. John's mother was the daughter of Col. James McLeod, who led the first detachment of Royal Northwest Mounted Police into the country of the Blackfoot peoples, became commissioner of the force, and stayed in Alberta as

justice of the peace after he resigned from the police. Helen McLeod was also the first white baby born south of Fort Edmonton in what is now Alberta. So a true pioneer family in the west were pioneers in Cardigan corgis too!

The first two a7 Cardigans were Dilwel Dilwyn (Dilwel Monksford Dewi x Dilwel Gladys) and Gwencie Winkie (Teilo Bryn x Deildre Vixen); they came from Mr Elwyn Jones of Haye-on-Wye in Wales. Mr. Jones was a well-known breeder of Hereford cattle. On a cattle buying trip in Canada he stayed at the a7, and the discussion one evening swung to stock dogs. Mr. Jones thought that Cardigans would do well on the a7, so the next time he came to Canada, he brought Eleanor two puppies. A year or so later she brought in another male, whose call name was Taffy.

The a7 Cardigans were never shown, but many puppies were given to rancher friends. When Lore Bruder gave demonstrations of Cardigans herding in the 1990s, at the Pincher Creek Rodeo Center, during the informal Saturday morning rodeos, she was twice approached by gray-haired cow men who said they had had a Cardigan 30 years before, a gift from a friend. "Best damn dog I ever had"! These dogs were almost certainly from the a7.

Other Cardigan owners did breed to Dilwel Dilwyn, so you will encounter his name in pedigrees of the Dogdene and My Little Cardigan corgis. Winkie was small by today's standards, probably less than 25 pounds, and Wyn was not much over 30. Wyn was a very dark sable, while Winkie was a gold colour reminiscent of darker yellow Labradors. Eleanor kept a blue merle dog named Marble who was probably a stud fee from Dilwel Dilwyn when he was bred to one of Mrs. Head's blue bitches. (Eleanor's memory of minor events 40 years ago is not definitive!) He had a typical sable head, but on his back from withers to tail he was blue merle, as if draped with a blue horse blanket.

Charlie MacInnes' first Cardigan, born in 1963, was a gift from his aunt, Eleanor Cross. Dai Morgan is proudly in the pedigrees of many old line Finnshavn Cardigans.

Agnes Hammond, who lived on the Ghost River Ranch, a quarter section near Cochrane, Alberta, had Cardigans and Pembrokes, as well as dachshunds. Her kennel name was "My Little". Mrs Hammond attended the first western Canada booster for Cardigans, held at the Alberta Kennel Club shows in Calgary, in August 1985. She was over 80 then, and in poor health. A dog of her breeding was reserve winners dog at the booster.

Joyce Moulton was kind enough to search through the CKC stud book, and she provided the following: Miss Lena J. Andrews (Jo) of Victoria B.C. had a litter of three (2m-1f) born 21 March 1963, sire Kentwood Bryn (imp) dam Ch. Kentwood Betsi (imp). Mrs Joan Geach of Vancouver B.C. had a litter of 7 (3m-4f) on 19 June 1963 sire Gavin Taffy of Worth (imp), dam Dogdene Black Velvet. Another litter (1m, 2f) born 10 August 1965, bred by Mr & Mrs Robert J. Drake, Vancouver B.C. The latter were also active in showing Cardigans. The litter was sired by Dogdene Moe Signals Tri Tingi, dam Dogdene Black Kiwa Panda.

There were certainly more Cardigans shown in western Canada than eastern during the 1960s and early 1970s. One of Margaret Head's dogs was the first Cardigan to finish a Canadian championship. Another early example was Am., Can., & UK Ch. Rozavel Springdale

Gregory. This dog was bred near Washington, DC, born in 1961. He was exported to the UK in about 1966 or 1967. He appears to have been campaigned in Canada by the Cambria kennel in California. He earned at least two (working) group placements. The only record of his Canadian championship was its listing in his Kennel Club (UK) stud book entry.

- 1962 Ch. Dogdene Blue Suga'N Spice 455392
- 1963 Silverdale- Bundock Smokey B'ar 563672
- 1964 Dogdene Black Velvet 526850
- 1964 Pendragon's Caraid 568954
- 1966 Dogdene Moe Signal Tri-Tingi 622916
- 1966 Garvin Black Pexo 567410
- 1968 My Little Blue Smoke 633472
- 1968 My Little Gopher Girl of Toriac 712942
- 1968 My Little Ponco of Toriac 730847
- 1968 My Little Witch Doctor 730848
- 1968 Pemcar's Kimberlee Merle C.D. 746870

There was a Mrs Lillian Campbell in Toronto Ont. in 1956 who bred Cardis. Gwen Sutherland, whose husband managed the University of Toronto Press, had two Cardigans sometime in the late 1950s, and bred perhaps four litters, most of which were given to friends. We cannot determine the source of these, but perhaps they had been bred locally. One went to Elunyd (Lyn) MacMillan and her husband Bob. Lyn was an environmental activist. She chaired the Ontario Government's Niagara Escarpment Commission for several years. Her husband Bob was an internationally well-known heart surgeon. Most of their puppies went to their children and grandchildren. Their most recent litter was in about 1994, the dam being a bitch purchased from Fanny Edwards (Markwell).

Gloria Graham contributed the following:

*"I grew up in Southern California. When I was 13 years old my mother, Marion Graham, decided I needed some recreational pursuit, so she signed me up for obedience classes with the family dog, a six year old English Bulldog named "Sarge". That was quite a challenge, in retrospect, but I did get a CD on the dog. It was at the club where we trained that I saw my first Cardigan, and as the saying goes, "The rest is history".*

*In 1968 my mother and I were on vacation visiting my uncle in Regina. We told him about this rather obscure breed of dog we wanted and he had a look in the classified ads of the local paper at the half dozen or so ads in the pet column. Lo and behold there was an ad for Cardigan puppies in Moose Jaw! Imagine that. We went to see the litter the next day and there began my lifelong love of this breed.*

*The puppy we bought that day was a brindle and white female, who became Am. Ch. Pemcar's Myfanwy, Can. & Am. CDX. She was a going concern, full of fire and extremely intelligent. The breeder had a year old blue merle female at the time we bought Myfanwy. A year later they contacted us to ask if we were interested in purchasing her, as they were cutting down on their dogs. Can. & Am. Ch. Pemcar's Kimberlee Merle became my second Cardigan. Kimberlee was an **outstanding** bitch, but unfortunately not a showy dog in the ring.*

*Until I read the beginning of this history I didn't realize that both of my first girls came from one of the first dogs imported to Canada. Myfanwy's breeding was Dogdene Little Bob of Mischief (a Dilwel Dilwyn son) x My Little Big Vixen (a Dilwel Dilwyn granddaughter). Kimberlee's breeding was My Little Chutney x My Little Big Vixen (both Dilwel Dilwyn grandchildren)."*

In fact, the pedigree of the latter bitch ties together a lot of loose ends. It shows that Mrs. Head brought her original two from England, from two major kennels, Kentwood and Rozavel, and it shows that Mrs. Head and Mrs. Hammond bred to Eleanor Cross' male, and Mrs. Hammond bought stock from Mrs. Head.

NAME: CAN AM CH PEMCAR'S KIMBERLEE MERLE CAN AM CD  
OWNER: GLORIA L. GRAHAM  
WHELPEP: 1967 SEX: FEMALE

BREEDER: JENNY RICKARTS (?)

15/ DILWEL MONKSFORD DEWI

7/ DILWEL DILWYN

16/ DILWEL GLADYS

3/ DOGDENE LITTLE BOB OF MISCHIEF

17/ KENTWOOD CLOGWYN

8/ CH DOGDENE BLUE SUGAR 'N SPICE

18/ ROZAVEL BLUE SMOKE

1/ MY LITTLE CHUTNEY

19/ ENG CH KENTWOOD DEWIN

9/ KENTWOOD CLOGWYN

20/ ENG CH KENTWOOD CURIGWEN

4/ CH DOGDENE BLUE SUGAR 'N SPICE

21/ ROZAVEL BLUE AT LAST

10/ ROZAVEL BLUE SMOKE

22/ ROZAVEL BLUE MIST

**CAN. & AM. CH. PEMCAR'S KIMBERLEE MERLE CAN. & AM. CD**

23/ DILWEL MONKSFORD DEWI

11/ DILWEL DILWYN

24/ DILWEL GLADYS

5/ DOGDENE LITTLE BOB OF MISCHIEF

25/ KENTWOOD CLOGWYN

12/ CH DOGDENE BLUE SUGAR 'N SPICE

26/ ROZAVEL BLUE SMOKE

2/ **MY LITTLE BIG VIXEN**

27/ KENTWOOD CLOGWYN

13/ DOGDENE BLUE BEAR

28/ ROZAVEL BLUE SMOKE

6/ CH DOGDENE SILVER BLUE MUSIC

29/ ROZAVEL BLUE AT LAST

14/ ROZAVEL BLUE SMOKE

30/ ROZAVEL BLUE MIST

Gloria's account continues: *"I bred Myfanwy twice and from those litters my mother, Marion Graham, kept Am. Ch. Denbigh Dandy Dunstan, Am CDX. and Can. Ch. Denbigh Commander Whitehead, Can. & Am. UD. Schweppes, as he was called, had a half white face, but was a beautiful specimen and a happy worker."* Those who knew the advertising campaign as the British soft-drink company Schweppes moved into the North American market will chuckle at this dog's name and ability.

*"My parents moved from California to Victoria BC in 1972, and my mother remained active in the show and obedience world for another 25 years. She is still living in Saanichton, BC (at 82 years old) with her last Cardigan, OT Ch Cardicar Great Grandy (a Schweppes great grandson).*

*I bred Kimberlee twice as well, and one of her offspring was the dog Can. & Am. Ch. Denbigh Blue Suede Shoes (Elvis). I moved to Regina in 1973 where I bred a couple of litters (my married name was Peck). Due to life's circumstances I was unable to breed any more for quite some time.*

*Thanks to my mother, her love of obedience and the exposure that generates, the line has continued. She purchased a blue male from Helen Cramer in California, an Elvis son, who became Ch Dorre Don Black and Blue, CDX. Schweppes sired her next dog, Can. & Am. OT Ch. Dood's Final Fling, Am. UD. He was shown at the Cardigan Booster in Calgary in 1985 and was best of breed. I must take a moment to explain Fling's name. Schweppes was getting on in age and had begun to develop prostate problems. As a result he was scheduled for surgery to be neutered the following week when a call came from the owner of Ch Brymore's Virginia. Was Schweppes available? After consulting the vet we decided to put off the surgery, and Mom's puppy became Final Fling!*

*My next Cardigan was a Fling son, Vixen's Country Squire, who sired two litters with one of Cheryl Reist's girls in Nanaimo, BC. I took a puppy from the first of those litters, Cardicar Bonnie Wee Geordie, CD. Geordie's brother was Cardicar Blackbird Toobee, CDX, owned by Willie Davies of Mill Bay, BC. He sired two litters with a girl belonging to Nancy Rowland in Oregon.*

*I had just lost my last Cardigan, Geordie, three days before the second litter was born. I went to see the litter and chose a brindle and white female with tons of attitude and intelligence. I wanted another like my first Myfanwy and I picked well. She is Airlie Denbigh Déjà Vu, CD, and is aptly named! She is a working fool and we're now training for our CDX.*

*I bred her to Cheryl Reist's Am Ch Liveoak Thunder Rolls last fall and on the 20<sup>th</sup> of January 2004 she had eight lovely puppies. We kept a black and white female, Denbigh Belly Dancer. "Cleo", as we call her, is the seventh generation back to my original Myfanwy."*

Jenny Rickarts (Pemcar) bred five or six litters of Cardigans in the late 1960s.

Helen Cramer (Pera) from California and Beryl Epling from the Seattle area competed in obedience in western Canada in the early 1970s. I believe Am. Ch. Pera Brigwyn Blue Am. UDT was also shown in conformation.

Charlie MacInnes received Dai Morgan as a gift in late 1963, as a pet. As Dai, who was a great character, aged, Charlie found that there was no easy source of replacement. On a sabbatic leave in Scotland in 1972, he bought a bitch from Eddie Young of Rhiwelli (located in Pembrokeshire, but literally within sight of the Cardigan boundary), to breed to Dai Morgan. The first litter she bore, in January 1973, had five puppies. Only one, a tri-t had ears that stood up, he became Can. & Am. Ch. Tulemalu Black of Finnshavn, Can. CDX, Am. CD. Of the others, one was a gray dilute with brindle points, who bore a striking resemblance to the picture of old Mon. Another was red, another was very pale red (chinchilla??), and the fifth was a tri-br, who went to the a7.

Rhiwelli Llygad Y Dydd (call name Dwyn, colour – brindle), the bitch Charlie brought back from Rhiwelli was so pretty he decided to show her. This sent him into a strange world at the time. At the first show weekend they went to, Dwyn was the only entry. In fact, on the Saturday, the elderly ring steward told Charlie to leave, because it was against the rules to have a cross-bred dog on show grounds. On Sunday another steward said cheerily that she was glad he had come, because she noticed the Cardigan on the judging schedule, and she had never seen one in the flesh. That lady, Jean Sparks, some 35 years later, was ring steward for the Canadian national specialty in 2008.

As Charlie continued to show Dwyn, he asked people who had been around the shows for a while if they ever saw Cardigans at shows. He wanted to make contact with other owners, possibly to find another mate for Dwyn. He kept getting a strange answer – that there had been a woman from the USA who had showed in southern Ontario several years before. No one could remember her name, but they all knew her as “Irma the Body” (grin, grin). This mystery was solved several years later by Mary Nelms of Brymore. Ms. Goodfellow was a striptease artiste, very well known in Baltimore “where the action was” at the time. Her stage name was Irma the Body. Mary told me that she bought her two Cardigans from Brymore, and very much enjoyed showing them herself. Mary and her husband went to see her strip show once, and were, of course, invited to her dressing room afterwards, where they were subject to a mild dressing down. It seems Irma wished to keep her dog friends separate from the world she worked in. Stripping paid the bills, but she really led a very respectable life off the stage.

When Charlie first showed Dwyn, and then her son Tully, he received a lot of friendly help from Pembroke breeder-owners, notably Earl Crowe and his wife (of Earlina), Dave Eadie (Crossland), and Rosemary Harvey (Polruan). It was Rosalie who told him that there had been two Cardigans from upstate New York at the St. Catherine’s show a year earlier. Charlie entered only one day, as he was busy the other. Jean Clifford also entered only the one day, and by some miracle it was the same day. Dwyn won, and by doing so finished her Canadian Championship. Charlie took a liking to Jean’s male, Brymore’s Tax Refund, and resolved that Dwyn’s next litter would be sired by “Taxi”. Thereby began a long and constructive friendship. There were two excellent males in that first Taxi x Dwyn litter, Finnshavn’s Whiskey Tax and Finnshavn’s Brindwyn The Imp. Jean took the pick bitch as stud fee, and Trailwyn’s Canadian Dividend was mother and ancestor to many great Trailwyn Cardigans. The breeding was repeated in 1975. Finnshavn Trailwyn Tarif went to Jean, who sold her to Karen Harbert in San Diego. Charlie bought a puppy from Karen when she bred Tarri to Am. & Mex. Ch. Pera Brigwyn Blue Am. UDT, PCE and, starting with Aelwyd Finnshavn Moonshine, there began a long and productive

cooperation. (Karen chose the name Moonshine because she knew the bitch would be bred to Whiskey!) Moonshine's sire was the first Ch. UDT in the breed in the USA.

Jean had named her first male based on the fact that she bought him with her income tax refund. She kept the tax theme in her dogs' names for many years, and, in honour of "Taxi", there were several Finnshavn dogs with tax theme names. Taxi was also one of the world's keenest frisbee chasers.

In 1974, a friend who lived in New Jersey and had an elkhound Charlie had bred, met, at her vet's, a couple named Slaboda, who showed Cardigans. They told her that there would be a good entry at the Philadelphia shows that fall, so Charlie went down to meet Cardigans and Cardigan people. They said he should come to the CWCCA National Specialty in 1975, as it would be in Akron, Ohio, relatively close to home. When the time came, Charlie had two male puppies who would be 6 months and 2 weeks old on the day of the show. He entered both. Whiskey, in his first show the week before the Specialty, won best of breed over both his parents, his half brother Tully, and two littermates. Charlie drove down to Ohio after work on Friday, with a friend who had Salukis. They arrived at the CWCCA headquarters hotel at about 3:00 am. As Charlie walked the puppies down the hall to his room, a lady stopped, gaped, and asked "Where did you get that lovely puppy?" Next day, Finnshavn's Whiskey Tax won Best in Sweepstakes under Peter Clifton, and then Best of Winners under Sonnica Godden. That infected Charlie with a severe case of the dog show virus! Second place in the sweeps class was won by a dog handled by another future breeder attending her first National, Connie Fitch (then) whose kennel name was Davenitch. Charlie and she began a long friendship in that show ring.

Can., Am., & Bda. Ch. Finnshavn's Whiskey Tax, Can. CDX, Am., & Bda. CD was the first Cardigan that Charlie campaigned as a special. He won the first (working) group placement (a third) for Finnshavn in August 1976. He won best of breed many times, but Charlie never counted them all, because too many were for turning up, as Whiskey was the only Cardigan entry. Whiskey was a dog who loved going to shows, and woo-wooded when he saw the tack box loaded in the car. He had a period of back trouble at 8 years old, but recovered sufficiently that Charlie entered him in shows the weekend of his tenth birthday. Whiskey celebrated by winning third in the Working Group. Was it coincidence that the judge was Dr. Richard Greathouse, who had also awarded Whiskey his first group placement 8½ years earlier?

In about 1978, a distinguished US bred and owned dog was campaigned in the maritimes by Pembroke breeder and professional handler John Heartz. The dog was Am. & Can. Ch. Domino's Checkmate Genius (Am. Ch. Pilgrim's Rhudd x Am. Ch. Springdale Dee) bred by Sherry and Bob Caldwell and owned by Jim Churchill. He earned a Group 1 (working) and finished without ever meeting another Cardigan in the ring. At the end of the year, Finnshavn's Whiskey Tax won top Cardigan in Canada by a slim margin gained from beating other Cardigans in the breed ring. The two had done equally well in the groups, several hundred miles apart.

A bitch out of the second Taxi x Dwyn litter was purchased by Michelle Bautsch, a German Shepherd breeder in Louisiana. Finnshavn Ayers Mouche Noir was one of the first two Cardigans to finish both Canadian and American championships as a puppy. The other was Denbigh Blue Suede Shoes, call name Elvis, bred and owned by Gloria Graham. Since they finished within the same month, Charlie always called them tied!

In these early years, Mary Kaucic (Topwyn), Paul Morehouse, and Ralph Levi came up to show on the summer circuits. Charlie has a picture of them with several dogs at the Trio Kennel Club show in August 1975.

When Charlie first started showing in eastern Canada in 1973 and '74, the only other Cardigan breeders in eastern Canada were Edna and Jimmy Dean (Llyndean), who lived in Lyn, near Brockville. Edna also bred Pembroke corgis. They had their first Cardigan bitch from the Fibs kennel in the USA. They bred to Charlie's Tully, and sold one of the puppies to a German shepherd breeder who was the chief obedience instructor at the Limestone Kennel Club in Kingston. This was Vera Orr (Vanderro), who was active in the breed for several years. Edna also imported a blue merle half-sister of Dwyn's – Can. Ch. Rhiwelli Carrie Ann Can. CD (call name Lynn). Then Edna was taken ill, so Charlie gave Lynn a home, show and obedience career for a year, in 1976. She earned her championship and CD. A puppy from her Finnhavn litter – Finnhavn Topwyn Farrah Fox, was purchased by Mary Kaucic (Topwyn). Farrah earned both Canadian and US championships. She was so successful in the US show ring as a puppy that her colour was protested. It turned out that the only problem was that Mary had her in a sunny outdoor kennel run, and her coat bleached in the sun, giving it a red cast. When Mary left Cardigans, she sold Farrah to Nancy Buckland, for whom the bitch was an excellent producer.

Charlie met Nancy and Bill Buckland (NaB's) at shows in Michigan and Ontario. Eventually he bred two litters sired by Nancy's Can. & Am. Ch. Topwyn NaB's Jack of Clubs Can. & Am. CD. From the first litter came Can. & Am. Ch. Finnhavn's Sam McGee Can. CD, and Can. Ch. Finnhavn's Bill McKie. Sam became a devoted office dog when Whiskey passed on, and was a great ambassador for the breed. Nancy took a blue bitch as her stud fee from the second breeding, Can. & Am. Ch. Finnhavn's Go For The Gold: Peggy was a great pet and producer. Anyone who was at the CWCCA national in Berrien Springs MI will remember Peggy, at almost 13, riding around between Nancy's feet on the electric scooter. Nancy was originally in German Shepherds, but the Cardigans increasingly took over the household. NaB's Cardigans have been influential in both the USA and Canada. Bill is a stalwart at dog shows, always ready to help in the background. However, his real show life involves his rabbits, and he is well known for his excellent Checkered Giant stock.

Between 1975 and 1985 Cardigans evolved from being an obscure and very rare breed in Canada to being frequently seen at shows and trials. Several key people joined the breed, a national club came into being, and Cardigans prospered.

Sherry and Bob Caldwell taught Charlie a lot at the CWCCA 1975 specialty, and they subsequently made several trips to Canadian summer show circuits. From Sherry Charlie obtained a Dilwel Rowland daughter, Can. Ch. Medwyn La Belle Canadienne Can. CD (Bonnie), who was important to the development of Finnhavn show dogs. One of the Caldwell's great dogs, Can. & Am. Ch. Checkmate Bounty Hunter lived at Finnhavn while he finished his Canadian championship. Finnhavn's second CWCCA Best of Winners dog (Can. & Am. Ch. Finnhavn's Dilwel Jones) was the result of breeding Dwyn to their Can. & Am. Ch. Dilwel Rowland.

In 1977, during the summer shows, Charlie became acquainted with a breeder of Malamutes and Siberian Huskies. She was in a body cast, and savagely depressed, all the result of a sledding accident. She was racing huskies the previous winter, and tore all the ligaments in

her left knee. Doctors told her she would probably never walk normally again, and certainly, sled dog racing, a passion for both her and her husband, was out of the question. No wonder she was depressed! Nevertheless, she limped around the summer shows, and gave Charlie some very good advice that improved his grooming and showing. This was Sue Bain. By the end of summer Charlie promised her a Cardigan puppy when she was ready. She declined at the time, because she and Steve had been living in a rented farmhouse that had no heat. The new year brought a new job for husband Steve, with a heated house, and in 1979 Cleo Finnshavn Eirianwen joined Sue and Steve. Cleo spent her first winter at Cold Creek living out of doors. But, as Gilbert & Sullivan wrote, "It was managed by a job, and a good job too!", as Cleo shared a whiskey barrel with four half grown Siberian puppies. Sue has claimed ever since that Cleo was her inspiration to try to regain her career as a professional handler. Surely she could get around the ring safely with this little short-legged dog. She quickly found that the showing went well, and not only did she get back into showing big time again, she started racing huskies, and had a very successful career there too. All inspired by a lovable pet (and Canadian Champion!) corgi. She has been a true friend for the breed ever since. Her skill at grooming and showing were a large part of the first Best in Show awarded to a Cardigan in a CKC all-breed show. Her continued efforts to show good Cardigans have resulted in judges noticing the breed much more than they used to.

Several of Sue's husky racing friends took such a liking to Cleo that they acquired Cardigans as house dogs, and from this was born an informal organization known as the Siberian mafia – made up of Siberian husky breeders who owned and showed Cardigans. Trevor Ainger, aged about 8, harnessed a three-dog team of Cardigans, and gave demonstrations of the strength of the breed during lunch break at husky races.

In the 1970s Woody's Kennels, a breeding and boarding facility on the outskirts of Guelph, Ontario, purchased two Cardigans from Marcia Lopeman (Kencia). A young veterinarian and his wife bought two puppies from them. The first was shot, mistaken for a fox. The second, Sasha, was bred to Whiskey Tax. The Leepers split up, and Lynn received a bitch puppy from this breeding as part of the settlement. She subsequently bred this bitch to Finnshavn's Dilwel Jones, and kept a puppy she named Winnie the Pooh Bear.

She called Charlie one day that the puppies were wild and driving her nuts, how could she train them? He knew she lived close to the Swansea Dog Obedience Club training site, so suggested she go to classes with his friends there. Lynn "caught the bug", prospered in competitive obedience and worked hard for the Swansea club. Bear had a distinguished career in obedience, and Lynn donated the perpetual trophy for High Score in Obedience for National Specialties in his memory. Bear was also a mascot for Lynn's partner's militia unit, the Queen's York Rangers, First American. He could execute a military salute on command! He would sit upright, at attention, by the hour. Once, when Bear was helping at a Cardigan booth at the Toronto Sportmens' Show, he sat straight up for two hours. In fact Charlie had to open the top of his crate to let him sit to his full height. A tall, fit man with obviously military bearing and moustache stopped by the booth, looked at Bear, and said "That's got to be Lieutenant Bongard's dog!" Bear also finished his show championship, with Lynn as handler. Charlie vividly remembers her coming out of the ring at Aurora with a purple and gold ribbon, holding it out and asking "What does this mean?" Three friends responded in unison "Three points!", and her shriek rocked the building. Bear's final titles made him Can. Ch. Winnie The Pooh Bear, Can. & Am. CDX, Bda. CD. Sadly, Bear's back failed before he finished his UD. After Bear, Lynn

purchased the tri-t Ch.Bawyni's Long Shot Liam, C.D., a Tuck x Georgia son from Barb Hoffman as a puppy in early 1982. Liam was the winner of the first Veteran Sweeps held by the CCCC in Woodstock, Ont. Prior to his death, he won Best Veteran In Show at the big Lower Mainland dog show at Tradex, in Abbotsford, B.C.

In the spring of 1977 Ron and Cecelia Ellis finally got hold of Charlie. They had tried several times the previous year, but in those days he did not have an answering machine. They had contacted the House of Puppies to get a Cardigan corgi pup. They were given a delivery date. When they went to pick up their puppy, there had been difficulty with the shipment leaving Britain, so they were given another date. This time they were told that the only difference between a Cardigan and a Pembroke was that the Cardigan had a tail. But, the store said, because the Queen had Pembrokes, the British were cutting the tails off all their corgis, so they could not get a Cardigan. At this point the Ellis family contacted Charlie. They started with a nice male, and Ron showed him, traveling to shows with Charlie. He earned 9 points, and was due to go to a show on a Saturday, where, from the judging schedule, we were sure he would earn his last point. On the Friday night he was hit by a car! They bought a bitch, they bred a litter, they helped to form the CCCC, but then Ron tragically died of cancer.

Starting in 1971, Charlie took the courses on purebred dogs offered by Catherine "Casey" Gardiner. That started at Fanshawe College in London with his friend Dick Smith. When Charlie moved to the Toronto area in 1973, he continued with Casey at Humber College, where he met several interesting dog people, notably Fanny Edwards and Betty McHugh. Fanny bred Labradors, and, as she told it, she was bought by a Cardigan. Every time she sat down in Charlie's living room a brindle puppy put her head in Fanny's lap and used her big brown eyes to great effect. Finnshavn's Julia Jarvis ran joyously with Fanny's two labradors, and finally, went home with Fanny. Charlie had tried to show Fanny's male Labrador in Open obedience. Teddy qualified the first day, but on the second he enjoyed himself clowning for a laughing gallery of spectators, and earned, truly earned, a score of 20 out of 200! When Charlie got back to the campsite, he hurled the dumbbell into the bushes in disgust. Julia, 7 months old, climbed out of a 36" ex pen, dashed into the bushes, grabbed the dumbbell, and took it back to Fanny. That was it, Julia Jarvis had a new home! Fanny and Charlie formed a partnership and bought a house in 1979. Another longtime friendship started in Casey's classes with Dawn Campbell of Ausland German shepherds. Dawn was also a professional trainer, handler and obedience instructor. She eventually bought a Julia Jarvis daughter from Fanny, and that started another thread, which we shall pick up later.

During the summer of 1979, Charlie got a phone call during the height of a severe thunderstorm. (This storm line spawned a tornado which did a lot of damage around Woodstock, ON.) He could not understand much of what the caller said, due to static on the rural phone line. Just as the line was clearing up the caller said "Oops, here comes my boss, got to go!" One day the following week there was a strange van in the driveway when he came home from work. This was the caller, and his uncle from Holland, Mr. G. J. Lankamp. The nephew had been in Canada for more than 15 years, so his Dutch was rusty, and he had not much "dog vocabulary". Mr. Lankamp spoke no English, so it was an interesting conversation. He wanted to buy a corgi puppy, a son of Whiskey. Charlie promised to pick a good one and show it in Canada and the USA before sending him to Holland. The dog who filled this order was Finnshavn The Exciseman (Finnshavn's Whiskey Tax x Medwyn La Belle Canadienne). When he left for

Holland at 21 months old, Exi was Champion and CD in both Canada and the USA. He also sired one litter in Canada before he left.

Exi earned his Netherlands championship in short order, and subsequently produced some fine puppies. There is one neat story about his show career. It started in 1975, when Charlie showed Whiskey at the US National. As he came out of the junior puppy sweeps class with Whiskey, he was pounced on by three women whose message was “You have the nicest dog in there, but you don’t know s--- about showing. We are here to give you a crash course in handling, but first we have to go to a booth so you can buy a proper show lead”. The sweeps judge was Peter Clifton, and he awarded Whiskey Best in Sweeps, so the handling course clearly paid off. Jump forward to Mr. Lankamp showing Exi in Holland. He won the dog CC the first show, but next time he lost. As Mr Lankamp came out of the ring, an Englishman came up to him. Mr Lankamp had a friend, Tjerry Tielrooy, who was fluent in English. Anyway, this Englishman said “You had the nicest dog in there, he should have won. But, he is a North American dog, so you need to show him in the style to which he is accustomed.” So Peter Clifton gave Mr. Lankamp handling lessons right there at the show, and Exi resumed his winning ways!

The first official show event for Cardigan corgis in Canada was a booster sponsored by the CWCCA, the American national club, as there was no Canadian club at the time. This was held on the Saturday show of the Barrie Kennel Club, 6 August 1977. The show was notable for the great participation by US Cardigan people. Jean Clifford and son John came, of course. A law student and his wife drove all the way from Oklahoma with their first show Cardigan – Steve and Marieann Gladstone of Aragorn have had great influence on the breed since then. Bob and Sherry Caldwell (Checkmate) came from Virginia – they were already friends from show circuits in the USA. Linda Mather drove in from west of Chicago – she had shown in Canada before, and bred her bitch to my Whiskey, so she brought two of the puppies. The judge was a well-known Canadian all-rounder from British Columbia – Mr. Leslie Rogers. His choice for Best of Breed was Can. Ch. Tulemalu Black of Finnshavn Can. CDX, who owned and was shown by Charlie’s sister Abby. (For registration purposes Tully remained in Charlie’s name all his life, but from 10 months until his death at 14 years he lived and worked with Abby.) She was a novice in the show ring at this booster, so when Mr. Rogers waved at the first place marker and said quietly to her “Please go over there”, which was the other side of the ring entrance, she thought she and Tully had been excused for some handling error. Mr Rogers called her back and quietly explained that she had just won Best of Breed. What a nice man!

Tully’s connection to Charlie’s sister spawned a couple of other offshoots in Canadian Cardigan corgi history. One of Abby’s beaus, Peter Watson, was with Price Waterhouse. On his way up through the corporate accounting ranks, Peter was posted to Bermuda, where he met and married the daughter of a local businessman, and so stayed on in Bermuda. Peter and Kathy acquired two Cardigans from Charlie, Finnshavn’s Tax Surcharge (out of Whiskey Tax’s litter) and later Finnshavn’s Lady of the Scarf. They kept saying that he must come to the Bermuda shows. Another close friend of this group was Tony D’Ombrian, also in PriceWaterhouse, whose wife Trish acquired Llyndean’s Melfyn Star from Edna Dean. Melfyn was an influential sire in the breed, and eventually earned both Canadian and U.S. championships.

A young couple who bred Samoyeds and Malamutes bought a bitch puppy from Vera Orr so that their 5-year-old daughter would have a dog of the right size to show herself. They were Barb Hoffman and Wayne Pitre, with daughter Nicole, hence the kennel name Bawyni.

Barb continues from there:

*“My first Cardigan was tri-t Can. Ch. Vanderro's Sweet Georgia Brown bred by Vera Orr, purchased in 1979. She was purchased for my 5 year old daughter to show. I fell in love with the breed and my husband purchased Tuck, (Finnshavn Bawyni Friar Tuck) a red dog, from Charlie MacInnes. In late 1980 Charlie MacInnes sent Aelwyd Finnshavn Moonshine south to be bred to Am. Ch. Quick's Charlemagne: that litter was the source of Tuck. We also bought a bitch from the Exi litter – Finnshavn Bawyni Midnight Toker.*

*I was profoundly influenced through my association via Samoyeds, with Betty McHugh and my mentor, Islay Aitchison, both proponents of Casey Gardiner's system of measuring bone lengths and angles. Under Islay's tuteledge I routinely measured my Samoyed and Malamute litters and I did the same with my Cardigan litters, measuring at birth and 8 weeks of age, and when possible at maturity, in an attempt to address the problems of short upper arms, long hocks and poor shoulder angulations. Unfortunately, the idea of developing a data base of Cardigan measurements did not find favour with any of the breeders of the time. However, I carried on anyway, and today credit this work with the structural improvements in my dogs.”*

When the Barb-Wayne partnership broke up, Toker (call name Joker) went to a couple on the staff of Point Pelee National Park – Jim and Marilyn Boissoneault. Joker was the foundation of their Aberwyvern kennel. Tuck came back to Charlie for a couple of years. Barb eventually got back on her feet, and began a selective breeding program under the kennel name Merrymoon. Tuck went back to her and lived a long happy life. In the early days she bought Finnshavn's Bill McKie from Charlie MacInnes. He and a tri-t bitch that Barb had imported from the Trilogy kennel in California were stolen from her rural house, while she was at home.

While Tuck was back with Charlie MacInnes the Bermuda connection was invoked, and Charlie went twice to the Bermuda shows over the Armistice Day (11 November) weekend. The first time his companion and co-exhibitor was Lynda Mather. They made sure they took enough dogs to make major points, and Whiskey Tax came home a Bermuda Champion. The next time Lynn Ragsdale was company and deputy handler, and three Bermuda champions finished – Moonshine, her son Tuck, and his daughter Molly. Molly was also the first Cardigan to win a Best Puppy in Group in Bermuda. Whiskey and Moonie, as well as Lynn's Bear, all finished their Bermuda CDs. Tully would have finished his, but for execution of a maneuver best described as a Roll on Recall. It was a long time before any other Cardigan people showed in Bermuda, so for several years all four of the world's Bermuda Champion Cardigans lived in Canada at Finnshavn.

Events in Montreal took an unexpected turn, as a teenager went through university and divinity school, and into a Ph.D. program.

Patrick Ormos takes up the narrative:

*“While I got into dogs in the middle to late 1960's, I don't think I ever saw a Cardigan until much later than that! I was in GSD's at the time. In fact, I had only seen photos of CWC until I went down to Westminster and saw Pookie (Am. Ch. Eastwyn Miss Friendly). I had*

*decided that I needed to move to a smaller breed, and was looking at several. I saw Pookie motor around the group ring, and that was it. Anything that could move like that (remember, I was in GSDs) was the dog for me. I talked to Paul and Doris about getting a Pookie daughter (none available), and they sent me to Marge Riccardi (this would have been around 1977-79). I got my first Cardigan from her, and my second from her, too (Am. & Can. Ch. The Duke of Foxfyre). About 1980-82 I was able to talk Paul and Doris into helping me get Honey (Am. & Can.Ch. Twinroc Honey of Demondo). And then a couple of years later, I got Kentwood Lyneth from Sonnica Godden. Honey, through her granddaughter Hillary (Phi's Amazing Grace ap Ronel) and Lyneth were my foundation bitches. It's probably more accurate to say that Hillary and Lyneth were my foundations. It took me a while to get to Hillary.*

*Bob Caldwell and Helen Jones came up for one of the CCCC specialties and stayed at my house. They were not great fans of Honey (or Pookie), and offered to try and find a better (i.e. more typey) bitch for me. They talked with Cathy Ochs-Cline, and that's how Vestavia's Molly D Mahoney came to live with me in Montreal. As they say, the rest is history."*

Patrick moved to the US in 1990. He became a U.S. citizen in 2004.

In 1983, Charlie MacInnes and Lynn Ragsdale went to the CWCCA National in Atlanta, GA. Fanny Edward's Markwell's Jane Eyre was part of the expedition, and came into season. Charlie and Lynn drove across to southern North Carolina to breed her to a Quick's Charlemagne son. A few months later, Cindi Bossi called to say that she was moving, and that the red male was available, was Charlie interested? Fanny protested that they had enough dogs, but she arranged with a Labrador breeder friend to take him. Fanny, with new owner Gerry Lescombe picked him up at the airport. When Fanny got home the first thing she said to Charlie was "You didn't tell me he was THAT nice!" The dog was Can. & Am. Ch. Tessaract's Pete of Santana, Can. C.D. Peter was a very influential sire, and earned (working) group placements on both sides of the border, including a Group 1 under Jane Kay, who had handled many Cardigans for Brymore.

During the early 1980s, Mary Hobbs and husband Bill imported Medwyn Molly from the USA and showed her very successfully, earning both Can. & Am. Ch's. Molly had at least one litter, but then Bill became a professional show secretary, and time to pursue the dogs was limited.

Dorothy Shaw and Alice Sprague (Gypsywood Cardigans) of Buffalo NY flitted across the border from time to time. One of their dogs was involved in the fight which introduced Marilyn Boissoneault to Karen Harbert (see below). However, a much more positive contribution came from their interaction with Sue Bain. Sue handled their dogs in Canada, but contact with her rubbed off in an unexpected way, as Sue related:

*Dorothy Shaw and Alice Sprague were a unique pair of ladies who loved their Cardigans, and loved the breed in general. They participated mostly in conformation, but did keep some sheep on a farm so that their dogs could enjoy herding as well. Then they decided to try dog sledding.*

*They drove up to our home in Ontario, bringing all of their Cardigans for custom fitting of harnesses. Plus we made for them a custom gangline - custom in that sled dogs usually run*

*in pairs, but Dorothy and Alice's Cardigans had 'issues' with each other, so the gangline needed to be single string, thus keeping personality conflicts a part.*

*So they now had harnesses, ganglines, usual gear required plus a dog sled. Full size racing dog sled, up on top of their car, heading back across the border, in July! Quite the sight I'm sure when they crossed the border back into the USA.*

*First big snowfall in Buffalo, New York found the ladies excited to go sledding with their Cardigans. They bundled up in warm clothes, put harnesses on their dogs. Hooked the gangline to the sled, hooked each dog in position, and with Dorothy being the lead dog, and Alice standing on the runners of the sled, down the road they went. They had a team of sledding Cardigans, happily running down the snowy city sidewalk.*

*On their travels, they went past a local bar. Patrons couldn't believe their eyes. A team of Cardigan Corgis or way too much beer?? The owner related that he was undecided: some regulars signed the pledge, but new customers came in for a shot because they couldn't believe what they had just seen.*

*Marilyn Boissoneault contributed a lot of eastern Ontario history: A dog from Woody's Kennels was also the inspiration for our involvement with Cardigans. One of my university professors bought a black and white bitch puppy named Flynn, who became the mascot of the School of Landscape Architecture at the University of Guelph, and later accompanied her owner to the Carl Jung Institute in Switzerland. She eventually ended her days in a villa in Tuscany. Although not a show dog, she was probably the farthest-travelled of any Cardigan bred in Canada! (It wasn't until I read this history that I realized Flynn must be a littermate of Lynn Ragsdale's Sasha, since Woody only bred one litter of Cardigans. He was basically into Golden Retrievers and chickens. Mostly chickens.) Flynn's wonderful personality, which fully demonstrated the adaptability, intelligence and sense of humour of Cardigans eventually led us to acquire Joker (Finnshavn Bawyni Midnite Toker) from Barb Hoffman, although not at first with any intention of breeding. However after a couple of months with her, culminating in a canoe trip in Algonquin Park where Joker herded squirrels and fishermen and met an otter nose to nose, to mutual astonishment, we decided to breed 'just one litter'. The mating of Joker to Ch. Finnshavn's Bill McKie launched Aberwyvern Cardigan Welsh Corgis. That first litter produced two champions (we hadn't intended to show either!), both blue merles. Ch. Aberwyvern Patches, CD, a noted escape artist, finished her championship from the puppy classes at the Peterborough Booster in 1985: my first champion, home-bred and owner-handled. Best of Opposite Sex that day was none other than Tesseract's Pete of Santana! Patches was still winning - and escaping - at the age of 12, when she won Best Opposite Sex in Veterans Sweeps at the 1996 National Specialty and climbed out of a four-foot x-pen in an attempt to join me in the ring. I still remember another exhibitor calling "I just found this blue puppy running loose!", which is pretty good testimony that Cardigans age well. Unfortunately (or perhaps fortunately!) she never produced a live puppy despite three efforts to breed her.*

*Her champion littermate was Aberwyvern Wagner, CD, owned by Gary and Liz Godding. Wags was bred to the English import Beckrow Black Madonna and one of the puppies was Ch. Caerphilly Blue Mordred, who became an outstanding stud dog for Lore Bruder. Another was Ch. Caerphilly Cedarstone Bluzefyr, foundation bitch for the Solman's involvement in Cardigans*

*and dam of the 1994 Specialty winner, Ch. Cedarstone's Rolls Royce, with Annie herself taking Best of Opposite Sex.*

*A third puppy from this litter, an absolutely gorgeous male who was never shown because he was a monorchid, was noteworthy for another reason. Aberwyvern Dylan saved the life of an elderly man with Alzheimer's disease who had fallen into the neighbour's swimming pool.*

*Joker's second litter, in 1985, was a repeat breeding to Bill McKie. This litter produced only one champion, Aberwyvern Duke of York, CD, although a blue litter sister, Aberwyvern Rose of Lancaster, earned nine quick points before her new owner questioned the utility of dog shows. Duke was the first Cardigan for John Coleman and Kenneth Elliott, who also invited Joker to live with them in retirement. John and Kenneth now have two more Cardigans, Ch. Aberwyvern Silver Spur (Maurice- Ch. Aberwyvern Llanelidon ex. Bluetrix Billie Holiday Blues) and Aelwyd Aberwyvern Bete Noir (Norah - Am. Ch. Aberwyvern Aelwyd Incorrigible ex. Aelwyd Blacklisted).*

*Joker herself was no show dog, her best achievement in the ring being a Best of Opposite Sex at a Club sanction match in 1985, about two weeks after whelping her second litter!*

*One of Joker's daughters, Aberwyvern Corwen, was bred to Am/Can Ch. Tesseract Pete of Santana. Fanny Edwards supervised this mating on the owner's behalf because, she said, "they don't know the first thing about dogs – they're horse people!" They certainly were: Mrs. McColl had a framed picture in the bathroom of herself, E.P. Taylor, the late Queen Mum and a racehorse! We acquired a brindle puppy, Islay's Georgina at Aberwyvern. Georgina was bred to the Vickers' Ben (Ch. Markwell's Peer Gynt) and produced Aberwyvern John's Tweed Jacket. Tweed was Best Puppy at the 1991 Chateaugay Specialty.*

*As with Finnhavn, Aberwyvern has also enjoyed a productive association with Karen Harbert's Aelwyd Kennels. I met Karen at the CWCCA National Specialty in Downingtown, Pennsylvania in 1988. (We actually met at the CCCC's first Specialty in Fort Erie a year earlier. We assume we did, since the group photo shows us seated together in the front row, but unfortunately neither of us remembers this!) I drove down alone from Cornwall with just one dog, Georgina; Karen had flown to Toronto and driven down with Charlie. Late in the day Jean Clifford asked me to take her bitch into the ring for Best of Breed. As we entered the ring one of the male dogs slipped his collar and turned on the dog behind him in the lineup. In a flash Doc had Mumbles on the ground and his intentions weren't honourable. Bill Buckland ran from the sidelines and grabbed Doc's hind legs, to try and pull him off, but Doc wouldn't loosen his grip on Mumbles' throat. It occurred to me that if I grabbed Doc's ear and twisted hard he might let go.....it worked like a charm, except that Mumbles (understandably) bit the first thing he could reach before he passed out. That happened to be my right hand. A quick trip to the hospital emergency ward to have my palm stitched, and I was back at the show grounds with my hand swathed in yards of gauze bandages and a bottle of painkillers in my purse. Unfortunately, my car was a four-on-the-floor stickshift, and there was no way I could drive it. It looked like I was stranded in Pennsylvania. Karen and Charlie to the rescue! Karen offered to drive my car to the border, and Charlie took the long route home, via Ivy Lea, to pick her up when we got there. Karen and I talked for nine hours - my husband claims we haven't stopped yet - and thus began*

*a great friendship. As an aside, it was on this first trip that I planted the seeds of an idea that culminated in Karen's authorship of three mystery novels with a dog show theme!*

*The first dog I acquired from Karen was a tricolour bitch, Aelwyd Judge Emily Murphy (Am., Can., & Mex. Ch. Aelwyd Hotspur ex. Am. & Can. Ch. Finnshavn's Helen McLeod), bred to Ch. Cedarstone's Rolls Royce produced Eli, our stud dog, officially Ch. Aberwyvern Llanelidon but affectionately known as 'Bonehead'. Eli was Reserve Winner's Dog at Markham in 1996, and Best Stud Dog and Award of Merit at the Millennium Specialty in PEI in 2000. Am. Ch. Aelwyd Aberwyvern Baklava (Becky – Am. & Can. Ch. Aelwyd Pirate Program ex. Redbud's Birthday Cake), another tricolour bitch from Karen, was Winner's Bitch, Best of Winners, Best of Opposite Sex and Best Puppy at the 1997 National Specialty under the late Nigel Aubrey-Jones. An Eli/Becky son, Am. Ch. Aberwyvern Aelwyd Incorrigible, went back south and became the stud dog for Karen Hake's kennel in Boise, Idaho. Eli himself was also the first stud for Bruce McDowell's foundation bitch for his BigEars Kennel in New York State. Bruce's first litter of four puppies produced two American champions.*

*As of this writing (January 2005) we have just completed 20 years in Cardigans. We have placed puppies in four Canadian provinces and nine American states.*

The Canadian Cardigan Corgi Club (CCCC) was founded in 1979. The early emphasis was on shows and obedience, although the newsletter tried to gather stories of interest to pet owners. Before the club qualified to hold Specialty shows it held annual boosters at all-breed shows. These were:

1979	Belleville & DKC (ON)	Judge: Henry Stoecker	29 dogs
1980	Belleville & DKC (ON)	Judge: Skip Stanbridge	26 dogs
1981	Barrie Kennel Club (ON)	Judge: Robert Braithwaite	22 dogs
1982	Limestone KC (ON)	Judge: Richard Guevara	28 dogs*
1983	Oxford County KC (ON)	Judge: Anthony Hodges	33 dogs
1984	Trio KC (ON)	Judge: Joyce Moulton	32 dogs
1985	Kawartha KC (ON)	Judge: Stan Whitmore	38 Dogs
1985	Alberta KC (AB)	Judge: Stephen Hubbel	18 dogs
1986	United KC (QC)	Judge: Ernest Loeb	11 dogs

The \* for 1982 recognizes a milestone – this was the first time that Cardigans had the largest entry of any breed in an all-breed show!

And the winners were:

1979	BOB Ch. Finnshavn's Brindwyn The Imp	BOS Aragorn's Swansea Galadriel
	BOW Deans Tywyll Ross	BP Rowell Midnight Gambler
1980	BOB Ch. Aragorn's Swansea Galadriel	BOS Ch. Finnshavn's Brindwyn The Imp
	BOW Aragorn's Out Of The Blue	BP Finnshavn The Exciseman
1981	BOB Ch. Tulemalu Black of Finnshavn CDX	BOS Ch. Medwyn Molly
	BOW Finnshavn Bad Lee-Roi Brown	BP Finnshavn's Dandelion Wine
1982	BOB Ch. Vanderro's Flora	BOS Ch. Finnshavn's Dilwel Jones CD
	BOW Kennebec Kate of Rhydowen	BP Markwell's Jane Eyre
1983	BOB Ch. Finnshavn's Drambuie	BOS Westwyn Blackstone Amethyst

	BOW Westwyn Blackstone Amethyst	BP Finnshavn's Lady of the Scarf
1984	BOB Ch. Finnshavn's Whiskey Tax CDX	BOS Ch. Markwell's Genevieve
	BOW Ch. Robgwen Gregson	BP Trailwyn Reddy return
1985(e)	BOB Ch. Bawyni's Star Gazer	BOS Ch. Dorre Don Trailwyn Pandora
	BOW Ch. Dorre Don Trailwyn Pandora	BP Max
1985(w)	BOB Ch. Dood's Final Fling	BOS Ch. Bawyni's Sweet Molly McGee
	BOW & BP Finnshavn's Zaphod Beeblebrox	
1986	BOB, BOW Phi's Amazing Grace ap Ronel	BOS Ch. Tessaract's Pete of Santana
	BP Finnshavn's Aelwyd Dragon Lady	

Finally, in 1986, the Club completed the required sanction matches, and qualified to hold shows in both conformation and obedience. So it was that the first National Specialty was held on 1987 in Fort Erie, Ontario. The entry was huge, 100 dogs, because of the support of CWCCA members. The CWCCA National was held in Batavia NY on Saturday, then the CCCC National was on Sunday a mere 70 miles away, so everybody went to both. There were many American Champions in the classes, as they had never been shown in Canada until that day, and the competition was fierce. Best of Breed went to a US-bred, Canadian owned dog, Can. & Am. Ch. Tessaract's Pete of Santana, owned and handled by Fanny Edwards. We have a unique photo of the Best of Breed trophy being presented to the President of the CCCC (Fanny Edwards) by the judge, assisted by the Cahir of the CWCA, Sonnica Godden, and the President of the CWCCA (Gordon Irvine). Best Puppy went to Peter's son, Finnshavn's Alexander Selkirk, of whom we shall hear more.

Locations, entry numbers and full results of CCCC national specialties are to be found at [www.cardigancorgi.ca](http://www.cardigancorgi.ca), and are too lengthy to repeat here. The club held specialties in Ontario or Quebec, where a majority of members lived, during the first few years. Fanny Edwards, Marilyn Boissoneault, Barb Hoffman and Chris Edwards were the dependable stalwarts of the time. Shelley Camm spearheaded the independent specialty in Newmarket ON in 1994. Then, mindful of Canadian Kennel Club requirements, the specialty was moved to other parts of Canada. At first that required a lot of work by a small group of people. Lore Bruder put together the first western specialty, at the Alberta Kennel Club shows in Calgary in 1995. She was helped and encouraged by Fanny Edwards, Charlie MacInnes and others who had staged eastern shows, and by the experienced crew of the Calgary club. That so inspired Lore that in 1999 she put on the third independent specialty the club ever had, in her home town of Pincher Creek, Alberta. This featured, in addition to the conformation show, an obedience trial, and a weekend herding workshop. There was a defining moment in the latter: Ron Stewart and his first Cardigan, Hughie (C-Myste Sir Hugh Evans) were in the arena with five sheep. This was an outdoor rodeo facility, and we were using the holding pens, designed for cattle, fenced with welded pipe panels. A lamb ducked under the low pipe, and took off down the chute. Before anyone could say anything, Hughie ducked under the pipe, passed the lamb, brought him back, and chased him under the fence to the rest of the flock. The effect on Ron was dramatic; he had no idea that his puppy had herding instinct, Hughie had never met sheep before, and here was a powerful built-in response!! Ron was impressed.

Through the 1990s, Barb Hoffman and Ruth Lister worked hard to produce good specialties in eastern Ontario, in 1999, 2003 and 2005.

There has been a very positive reaction to having specialties at show clusters in regions where Cardigans are rarely seen. The local dog show community have taken the chance to learn

about the breed, and eventually these pioneering specialties will result in Cardigans becoming more widespread at Canadian shows.

Charlie MacInnes bred a bitch he bought from Barb Hoffman – Can., Am. & Bda. Ch. Bawyni's Sweet Molly McGee to Can. & Am. Ch. Tessaract's Pete of Santana. The first litter of this breeding produced a promising red dog, Can. Ch. Finnshavn's Zaphod Beeblebrox, who was winner's dog at the Calgary booster in 1985. However, his career was cut short when he drowned in a neighbor's swimming pool when 14 months old. That led to a repeat breeding, from which came a flashy tri-t male, Can. & Am. Ch. Finnshavn's Alexander Selkirk. Selkirk began a spectacular show career as a puppy, winning not only Best Puppy in Group, but placing in the adult group as well. When he turned a year, he had earned 3 of the 6 Best Puppy in Group awarded to Cardigans up to that time. He did so well that Charlie decided to mount a full-blown campaign, and hired Sue Bain to handle him. When he retired four years later, he had earned 56 Group placements, including winning the group 8 times. The high point of his career came on 13 August 1989 at the Trio Kennel Club show in Bradford ON. Alice Davis gave him the first All-Breed Best in Show ever awarded to a Cardigan in Canada. It was an unusual Best in Show ring that day, the largest dog in the ring was the Standard Schnauzer, and the other six group winners were all judged on the table! However, it was especially noteworthy that this first BIS was won by a Canadian bred and owned dog, handled by another Canadian! Sue trained Selkirk to really enjoy the competition at shows. Unfortunately, some handlers, especially a couple of German Shepherd handlers of the time, were wont to allow their dogs to run over the small dogs at the back of the line as they finished their "go around" in the group. At least sometimes this was designed to intimidate potential group placers. Sue trained Selkirk so that he was not intimidated. When one handler allowed his GSD to run over Selkirk on two successive days, Sue warned him that next time, she would let her dog loose. He laughed. But next day, when the shepherd ran over top of him, Selkirk came out fighting, and rolled the shepherd. After that he was respected, and given space. In later years he could not see the point of working in the breed ring, but to the end he firmly believed that there was no GSD in the world who could outmove the great Selkirk (his opinion!). He was top Cardigan in Canada for four years, 1989-92.

Selkirk sired many fine litters. A very notable pair of dogs were born to Can. & Am. Ch. Ffallian Mor-Arian, bred and owned by Jeanine Jones of Ukiah, CA. Ffallian Smokin Smoky Blue was the first great dog owned by Donna Danials. Smokey earned titles in the show ring, in obedience, in herding, and agility. Charlie MacInnes' stud fee puppy was Can. & Am. Ch. Ffallian Finnshavn Lisbeth, show dog, mother of quality puppies, and office companion.

During a show circuit in California in 1987, Karen Harbert took Charlie MacInnes to see Buster (Can., Am., & Mex. Ch. Aelwyd Red Hot Dragon, Can., Am., & Mex. CD), by then over 7 years old. Charlie asked why Karen had stopped showing this wonderful dog. The result of that question was that Buster came to Canada at 8 1/2 years old, took BOW and High Score in Obedience at the CCC specialty in 1988, and generally had a good time. Charlie acquired a daughter, Can. Ch. Aelwyd Finnshavn Dragon Fire (out of Can. & Am. Ch. Finnshavn's Helen McLeod, a litter mate of Selkirk), who produced some very fine puppies for him.

Barb Hoffman's story continues:

*"I began showing and breeding again a couple of years later under the prefix 'Merrymoon'. Hoping to bring some new genes into the country I purchased a brown brindle*

*puppy from Patrick Ormos and Kathy Ochs-Cline. He was out of two British imports, the influential bitch, Can. & Am. Ch. Kentwood Lyneth and a lovely red brindle dog Am. Ch. Joseter Geefax. This was Can. & Am.Ch. Phi-Vestavia Pirate's Patch, born in 1989. He was a lovely puppy and a consummate showman. He set a record for Puppy Group wins by a Cardigan and was Best in Sweeps at the CCCC national in Markham, ON. Dylan never had a 'bad' day showing - he adored the ring and never let me down. A regular group placer who went on eventually to win two Canadian National Specialities.*

*He helped found the new Merrymoon kennel along with a red bitch from Phi-Vestavia, Rosie, Ch.Phi-Vestavia Unforgettable in whose memory the CCCC Brood Bitch Trophy was donated. She was out of the stunning black brindle British import bitch, Can. & Am. Ch. Rikarlo American Phi and Patrick's stud, Can. & Am. Ch. Phi-Vestavia Nautilus.*

*Rosie was a stylish bitch but an unpredictable show dog. When she did things, she did them in a big way. She finished her Canadian Ch. by taking a Group 1 from the classes. Her first time out as a special she also won the group. She produced 4 litters by 3 sires. She was bred twice to Dylan. The first breeding to Can., Am. & Eng. Ch. Phi-Vestavia Evan Evans produced several champions including Merrymoon Dear Heart, Merrymoon Dragon's Gold, Merrymoon Diamond Jim and, Can. & Am. Ch. Merrymoon Devil Woman, aka 'R.J.' RJ was the first Canadian bred Cardigan to win the Megan competition at a CWCCA National, which she accomplished in 2002. She was also awarded an AOM in the Specialty by judge Helen Jones, and BOS in Veteran Sweeps. She had also won an AOM from the classes at the 1998 National under Jon Kimes. She was also WB at that 1998 CWCCA National.*

*The two breedings of Rosie to Dylan produced Can. & Am. Ch. Merrymoon Firestorm, BOW at the 1998 CWCCA national and RWD at the 1999 CWCCA National in Texas. and Ch. Merrymoon Indomitable, WB, BOS, BP at the CCCC national in Cornwall, Ont.*

*With Rosie's breeding to Am. Ch. Pluperfect Garvin's Peerless my partnership with Patti Snider of Noblestar Cardigans, in PA became official. That breeding produced a brown brindle bitch, Ch. Merrymoon Noblestar Enterprise, CD. "Roxie" produced the sable bitch, Can. & Am. Ch. Merrymoon Noblestar Hot Ice aka Hannah, so called because she was born by c-section during the great ice storm of 1998 when I had no water, heat or electricity. What an adventure! She finished her U.S. title with 3 5-point majors, all at supported shows, and was also Best Bred By Exhibitor at the CWCCA National in Lancaster, Penn. in 2000 under N.Z. judge Bridget Smeeton.*

*In the meantime, my friend, handler Lin Mazurkiewicz who had a sable dog out of Dylan and Aelwyd Burning Ember, Ch.Merrymoon Buccaneer Of Mazara, was showing a lovely blue bitch bred and owned by Genie Bishop. Lin and I leased 'Bootes' - Cardach Happy's Blu Bootes from Genie and linebred her to Debbie Richeson's tri-br dog, Am. Ch. Rhydowen I Be Jammin', a Locksleyhall Laird son. That breeding produced a tri-br dog, Mazara Merrymoon Reggae Bob, BOW at the Long Sault CCCC national and Canada's first male Cardigan BPIS. Bob was bred to Hot Ice, "Hannah" who produced an all sable litter of five, including the bitch Can. & Am. Ch. Merrymoon Noblestar My Girl, "Vayda" who became the first Cardigan to win more than one BPIS award. Vayda also won the puppy sweeps at a Yankee Cardigan Club supported show in NH in 2001.*

*When I bred R.J. to Bob in 1999, a black-masked red dog, Merrymoon Noblestar Jacob, 'Sonny' was born. Jon Kimes of Pluperfect Cardigans in MO had purchased a brindle litter sister of R.J.'s, Ch. Merrymoon Dear Heart and was looking for a mate for her. Sonny was living with Patti at the time and she shipped him to Jon for mating with Heart. That began a fruitful association between Pluperfect, Merrymoon and Noblestar. Bob was also bred to Devil Woman, aka "R.J.", and that breeding produced Merrymoon Jubilation, C.D. a black-masked sable owned by former obedience and tracking judge Dorothy Budge of Quebec; Ch. Merrymoon Jezebel, a red brindle owned by my granddaughter, Sarah Hood of Elgin, Ont. and the stunning black-masked red dog Merrymoon Noblestar Jacob, aka "Sonny", co-owned with Patti Snider and Jon Kimes. Sonny has exerted a powerful influence on the Merrymoon, Merrymoon-Noblestar and Pluperfect and Merrymoon-Pluperfect breedings.*

*RJ and Vayda are both registered therapy dogs.*

*Today, most of my dogs are co-bred and co-owned with Patti and Jon. Dogs produced as a result of this partnership have helped establish several new breeders, Sue Burchill of Jazsita Cardigans in Brockville, Ont., and several others in the U.S.A.. Of the Merrymoon dogs who have American titles, all received at least one 5 point major at either national or regional specialties or supported shows. Several finished their U.S. titles with 3, 5 point majors entirely at specialties or supported shows."*

In 1985, Gary and Elizabeth Godding of Ottawa purchased Aberwyvern Wagner from the Boissoneaults. They met Patrick Ormos at the 1986 booster in Montreal. He convinced them to import a bitch, and they acquired Beckrow Black Madonna (Willowglen Destiny ex Beckrow Blue Orchid, born 1989). This bitch produced a very influential litter in 1991 when bred to Aberwyvern Wagner. Included were Ch. Caerphilly Blue Mordred (Spuddie) who became Lore Bruder's first show dog, and Ch. Caerphilly Cedarstone Bluzefyr (Annie) a special and group placer, owned by Linda Solman of Ottawa. Blue, bred to Can. Ch. Markwell's Peer Gynt, produced Can. Ch. Cedarstone Rolls Royce (born 1993), who was in turn a quality stud. Unfortunately, Liz Godding and one of their children developed serious allergies to the dogs, so the Goddings left the breed. Diane Solman's daughter, Cathy Coyne was getting started as a Cardigan breeder when her children became teenagers and she found herself busier than expected.

Chris Edwards has done a lot with Cardigans, and organized several CCCC events, including the first three herding instinct tests and a National Specialty. She sent the following account:

*Cardigans came into my life because I looked for them. I had dogs in England, poodles, and also when I first came to Canada. I rescued and trained other dogs, but one mixed breed dog set me on the path to finding Cardigan corgis. She was a Pembroke/terrier cross, self-willed, intelligent, and full of mischief. I decided to find out what a real corgi was like. When I found a breeder of Cardigans I went to see what they were like. I liked the many colours they came in, the temperament that had them stand back and assess you before they came forward, which bespoke intelligence, and I was hooked.*

*My first Cardigan was NaB's Tad Alwen ab Pencader C.D. (born 1983 – Topwyn NaB's Jack of Clubs x Topwyn Rogue NaB's Solitaire), a pretty blue merle with tan markings. Tad was*

*highly intelligent and learned easily. He took his first obedience trial after only eight lessons and passed with a good score, but I found he couldn't stand men, was ultra sensitive to crowds, and he was monorchid. He showed me how early social interaction is imperative in a good show dog or obedience dog. Tad was retired to a doting home after gaining his Novice title in obedience.*

*My second and third dogs were Ch. Finnshavn's Myrydd ap Pencader C.D. (Finnshavn's Dilwel Jones x Finnshavn's Dandelion Wine), a beautiful tri-t bitch, and Ch. Finnshavn's Peredur nab Pencader Am. & Can. C.D.X. (Topwyn NaB's Jack of Clubs x Finnshavn's Lady Known As Lou), another blue merle with tan points. Myrydd was going to be my foundation bitch, but things did not work out. She never managed to become pregnant, and I later found her a wonderful home as center of attention for a retired couple. I then acquired two litter sisters, NaB's Canlleu ab Pencader (Lou) and Ch. NaB's Tannwen ab Pencader C.D. (NaB's Dealer's Choice at Halin x NaB's ddl'm Again). Tannwen was co-owned with my son and he showed and trained her.*

*Perry and Myrydd were my entries at the first Canadian Cardigan Corgi Club specialty in 1987, at Fort Erie. That is, along with the life-sized toy Cardigan that I made for the club raffle and who somehow managed to sneak in to the group photo of the show. Perry and Myrydd were glad to see that rascal go to a new home!*

*My first homebred litter, in 1984, produced Pencader's Bara Bryth, a blue merle bitch (Lou x Can. & Am. Ch. Bawyni's Star Gazer). Sadly this was Houston's only litter, as he injured his back soon after the breeding. My next litter came in 1985 (Tannwen x Geriwyatt's Triobie) produced Ch. Pencader's Ar Ben Y Fford (Ben). He, bred to Bara, produced P.R. Ch. Pencader's Cymar (Kim), who accompanied us on our trip to Puerto Rico on 5 May 1990 as the sole representative from Canada. We returned home and he became the first Canadian bred Cardigan to win an FCI International Championship in North America. Ben also earned the first ¼ towards his Puerto Rican Grand Championship, Ch for South America, and his Can. Ch. As well. Ben was a richly tan-pointed tri (Tri-t).*

*Perry became my super performer. He enjoyed agility and flyball, and often appeared as a therapy dog extraordinaire. He could jump up on the bed of elderly parents, or sneak up from the foot. He was always a welcome visitor with his constantly wagging tail and happy grin. Perry also began to perform as a team member with the Herb Williams Super Dogs. In 1991 and 1992 we entertained at fairs and summer festivals as part of the drill marching and agility activities. Sadly this hampered his performances in the obedience ring, as he came to expect clapping and participation from the audience. He began to innovate and put his own touches into the exercises that did not go down well with judges and we had to forgo Utility trials and simply concentrate on agility or flyball as team agility in a summer agility tag/tournament. At the CCC specialty in Leamington in 1989, Perry demonstrated the game of flyball to fellow exhibitors; the game was not yet officially recognized, so this was a first time sight for many spectators.*

*In the 1980s I helped form a therapy dog group that serviced hospitals, retirement homes and school programs in the London area. A group of ten from our training school put on fund raising events for fund raising all over southwestern Ontario. We became ambassadors to the community before dogs were generally accepted in those institutions. We later merged with the*

*St. Johns Ambulance Therapy Dog Division for southwestern Ontario. I helped run the unit for a few years.*

*I helped to train and re-educate other dogs that had been mistreated by their first owners. One such was a beautiful rich red boy, Ch. Markwell's Mr. Pickwick (Tessaract's Pete of Santana x Markwell's Jane Eyre), whom we called Teivie.*

*In 1992 I picked up my first Welsh Springer Spaniel, and found that the breed made great companions for my Cardigans. We went from Indiana to Pennsylvania to attend the CWCCA National that year. A brace of tri-t Cardigans won second place with a father-daughter team Can. Ch. Pencader Y Fenni (NaB's Talking Back of ST's Can. & Am. C.D. x P.R. Ch. Pencader's Cymar) and Can. Ch. Pencader Debut de Noruss C.D. (Ch. Pencader Y Fenni C.D. x Pencader's Delwyn. Fenni was my next obedience dog, and took over from Perry as part of the Super Dogs Team in 1992. Fenni also became the middle generation of three who passed the first CCCC herding instinct test at Woodstock in 1992.*

*In 1995 I bred my first brindle x tri litter, which had reds, brindles, and tri-t puppies, and expanded my practical knowledge of genetics. It confirmed the inheritance of white-spot (which came from a known ancestor; there were two pups, a red and a brindle, marked in exactly the same manner and location.*

*My assistance to the CCCC was ongoing. I helped with everything I could, I donated the three Pencader permanent trophies for obedience, Novice, Open and Utility. I worked on shows and events at remote locations when I could. In between shows I always made things for the raffles, and awards designed to encourage owners to train their dogs and show them, and to enjoy these events. I was also a member of the Thames Valley Dog Obedience Club, V.P. of the CWSSC, and a member of the CCCC and the London Canine Association Inc, Canada's oldest dog club. I ran London Canine's obedience trials for a few years, and more than once I coordinated double trials on the same day, running eight rings with all levels of obedience. We had entries almost equal to the biggest USA obedience trials. In one of these London Canine trials there were a high in trial and class high awards for Cardigans. The highest scoring Cardigan, and the only one of three to qualify, was Karen Harberts Can. & Am. Ch. Aelwyd Pirate Program Can. C.D., better known to his friends as Cobol or Pond Scum.*

*I set up and ran three herding instinct tests for the CCCC, in conjunction with specialties. The first was Woodstock in 1994, where 10 of 24 entries passed. The second was near Tottenham ON in 1994, on Tony Bingham-Wallis' farm the day before the Newmarket specialty (11 of 25 entries passed). The third was at Clarkshome Farm, Blenheim ON, 6 July 1997, in conjunction with the specialty at the Sarnia Kennel Club shows (14 of 25 entries passed). CCCC certificates, the "Award of the Silver Bone", and CCCC Qualifying Herding Instinct ribbons were awarded to all passing entries.*

*In '92 I sent Pencader Hafgan (female puppy) down to Kentucky. In 1994 I imported two blue merle dogs back from Susan Wolfe and Debbie Richeson, Can. Ch. Su B's Owain Glyndwr Pencader (Am. Ch. Phi-Vestavia Airts Hywel x Pencader Hafgan ap Su B's) was the male, who finished under a year, and his litter sister Ch. Su B's Marged ab Pencader-Sar C.D. who was reserve WB at the western specialty in Calgary in 1995. Su B took to herding like it was a natural thing to do, and bred to Am. Ch. Kennebec Rogue of Red Oak, produced my very special*

*boy Can. & Am. Ch. Pencader O'r Diwedd ap Adair, aka Charlie, in 1998. Charlie became the birthday present for Irenne Bader of Winnipeg (with whom I co-own him). His Canadian title was earned almost entirely from group placements as there were no other entries in the breed from BC to Manitoba when he was being shown. He won BPIS at the Manitoba Canine Assn. Shows in 1999. He finished his American Championship in ten days, in the face of tough competition in 2002, earning him an invitation to the Eukanuba Invitational in California in Dec. 2003, but he was unable to attend. He was shown as a special in Canada in 2003, becoming top Cardigan in Canada with 436 points for the year from group placements and BIS wins.*

*In 1995 I had my first WSS litter and produced a dog that went on to become the first Canadian bred Welsh Springer Spaniel (1999) in the history of the breed. – Can. & Am. Ch. Pencader Luc at Silverstone CD. Luc was owned by Connie O'Brien. He was top WSS in Canada for several years, until succeeded by his sons.*

*I have long believed that the size factor was becoming too variable in Cardigans, and so I placed otherwise good dogs if they matured too fast or grew to become oversized. I also don't believe in the granting of championship status when the dogs are under 18 months of age, as so much still can happen to alter their maturation into ideal Cardigans.*

*I was asked by the CCCC to judge puppy sweeps at the Specialty in Manitoba in 2001, and travelled out to fulfill that assignment. It was a memorable trip and a rewarding experience. The trip gave me a complete circuit of the Great Lakes to get out there and home.*

*Russell Edwards, my son, was an excellent dog trainer and groomer, and he had a special knack for making friends with both people and animals. He was, at one time, training, handling and breeding: his own Bulldogs, Chinese Crested, all three varieties of Poodles, his Cardigans, his wife's Puli and his own Soft-coated Wheaten and Scottish terriers, in both the show and obedience rings. Russ gave Sue Bain some training tips which helped with a problem dog she was handling.*

*Russ had his own obedience training school – Pets Plus -, a private grooming business, and he was president of the Thames Valley Dog Obedience Club, in addition to his regular job as a DSW – Occupational Social Worker. He also lectured on occasion for the Ontario Groomers' Association.*

*Russ co-owned Ch. NaB's Tannwen ab Pencader-Sar CD with me. He bred her to Can. & Am. Ch. Finnshavn's Alexander Selkirk and kept Can. Ch. Sar's Tri Star ab Pencader CD from the litter. She was a well-marked tri-t bitch. Russ showed and trained all his dogs and often handled my Pencader dogs in the ring as well.*

*Russ helped with Cardigan club events and performed with Star his Cardigan and his Wheaten terrier in the "Superdogs" performance troupe 1990-1992. He helped to organize and set up for the Herding Instinct Test at Woodstock, despite injuries from an auto accident earlier that year. Russ continued on for some years despite severe pain, but became unable to compete in dog events by 1998, and had to part with all his dogs in 1999 when he was too sick to look after them. He was quite unaware of the high regard he generated in the London and region dog fraternity. The size of the crowd who attended his funeral in 1999 surprised even his father.*

*Norman Shearing was a close friend of Russ'. He got his first Cardigan through Russ, Can. Ch. Pencader Gwen Debut De Noruss CD, in 1995. Norman learned to train and show his own dogs. He took great pride in his accomplishments. Gwen took a High in Trial to finish her Novice obedience title – the ribbon was larger than the dog who won it! Norm proudly had it framed for his apartment wall. Norman bred Gwen to Can. Ch. Pencader's Ar Ben Y Ffordd, and produced Can. Ch. Noruss Bishop Jean Val Jean CD in 1994. He trained her and showed her himself. Norman always helped with events involving dogs in the local region, he was active in hospital and therapy visiting, and was always cheerful in his dog work. In 2008, Norm bought another Cardigan.*

Chris wrote above about the herding instinct tests she organized. One of the stars of the first two was part of a very special story. In the early 1980's, Charlie MacInnes' next door neighbour called. Her best friend's mother-in-law had just lost an elderly poodle, and the family thought that a Cardigan might be a lower-maintenance pet for her. But, as she and her husband were in their 70s, perhaps an adult dog would be more suitable. Charlie had such a dog, a male who was sneaking up to the farm two doors north to round up cattle. So Finnshavn's Big Mac went to live with Dorothy Newmarch. Mrs. Newmarch was a super trainer, and Mac never set a paw wrong. But when he was about seven, he disappeared, either stolen out of the back yard, or someone had left a door open. Mrs Newmarch next got a yearling female, daughter of Mac, from Barb Hoffman. Penny became every bit as good a pet as Mac had been. By the time of the first Herding Instinct Test Penny was a mature female who had lived in the city almost all her life. Mrs Newmarch, by now a widow, and about 80, entered Penny in the Herding Test, and drove herself to Woodstock. As she and Penny walked through the park to the test site, Penny went rigid – she had spotted the sheep, and she wanted them. She did not tighten her leash, but when she reached the holding pen fence she was quivering with excitement. When her turn came, she herded with enthusiasm, she moved the sheep around the pen one way, and then back the other way, but she made no move to bite or worry the sheep. After 8 of the 10 allotted minutes the tester (Jim Clark) said he had seen enough, thank you. Mrs. Newmarch, standing and watching from the center of the pen, called gently "That's enough, Penny dear." Penny immediately broke away from the sheep and came to sit in front of 'mum'. The gentle waves of her tail told everyone that she had enjoyed the herding, but she worshipped her 'mum'. At the second test, Penny was older and a bit stiff. So she moved up alongside the first sheep, and, inches from the ewe's face, growled. The sheep was impressed. So Penny, by heading them off with a growl, controlled the sheep at a slower pace than the last time. Someone at ringside said (not to the dog!) "Get the sheep away from the fence". Penny ducked under the sheep, and came up between them and the fence! When Dorothy Newmarch, still living in her own house, reached 89, Penny passed on. Dorothy said she was too old for another dog. But within the year, Charlie met her son Stan at their mutual family doctor's office. Stan asked if there was any possibility of another dog. His mother was, he said, getting forgetful and disorganized, but refused to move in with any of her family. Charlie provided a five-year-old male, Eddy, whom the family presented to Dorothy for her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. A year later, Stan and Charlie met again in the doctor's office. The difference in his mother, Stan said, was dramatic. Eddy learned a new trick every month, and mother had a focus for her life again. At the time this was written, Mrs. Newmarch was 93, and still living in her own house, guarded by Eddy the Cardigan. She still drives her own car! Dorothy was the first recipient of the Olivia Trophy. That award was donated to the CCCC by Rick and Lore Bruder, in memory of a beloved ranch dog who had died tragically. The trophy is awarded to one or more Cardigans who have made a difference,

and clearly Mac, Penny and Eddy merited a special thanks. Dorothy passed away at 96, and Eddie lives on with Stan and Elva Newmarch

Charlie's own experience at that first herding Instinct Test was less illuminating. He had entered six dogs, and all six failed. Selkirk was the worst example. For ten minutes he was in a 40' diameter pen with 5 sheep, and Charlie. Charlie told him to go get them, etc., but Selkirk's attitude was "Sheep, sheep, I don't see any sheep. You must understand, if I don't see sheep, I don't have to deal with them. I don't see any damned sheep!" Jim Clark told Charlie to go to the other side of the sheep and call the dog. Maybe he would notice the sheep if he came when he was called. Charlie did that, and Selkirk bumped off sheeps' legs as he came to Charlie straight through the flock, all the time radiating "Sheep, sheep, I don't see any sheep!" Charlie's dogs were taught to be respectful of strange animals, but he did not realize how firmly he had ingrained that in all of them. Charlie himself, who had a lot of experience herding flightless geese for banding, worked very hard to stay on the other side of the flock from each dog, without the desired result. The spectators awarded Charlie a Herding Instinct certificate, signed by everyone there!

Fern Hunt of Waiborne sent this personal history:

*In the mid-1980s I rescued a red & white male named Cardi Cavalier Ruff (Rusty). After getting his papers I decided to get back into the breeding and showing of cardis. After many inquiries across Canada, to no avail, I turned back to my ties in New Zealand, as I had bred and shown there for several years before coming to Canada. I was put in touch with Beryl Russell, from whom, in 1988, I got a red brindle & white bitch Tuahine Merri Liana (Betsi), already a N.Z. champion. Betsi finished her Canadian championship in 1990. I bred Betsi to Rusty and a litter of 7 males and 2 females was born April 1<sup>st</sup> 1989. From this litter I kept the gold & white male Waibornes Buds The Choice (Buddy) who became my first homebred champion in 1992.*

*I then bred Betsi to Am. Ch. Talbot's Life In The Fast Lane (Freeway). Only one pup came from that breeding, he looked just like his sire. Betsi's third breeding was to Am. Ch. Redbuds Face the Fax (Fax) and in August 1992 7 males and 3 females were born by Caesarian section as Betsi's kidneys failed and she died on the table as they were sewing her up. I came home with 9 live puppies, but, unfortunately, over the next week I lost one boy and two of the girls. Help from family and friends enabled me to raise the other six. When grown, all these pups showed strong herding instinct. Three pups from this litter were important, Bryn (Waibourne's Merri Bryn, Charity (Waibourne's Sweet Charity), and Bentley (Waibourne's Butler of Smayuk), all finishing their Canadian championships very easily. Bentley, and his owner Murielle Simpson became very good ambassadors for the breed, earning many group placings in the show ring. Bentley was also the mascot for a sheriff's pistol team that Murielle was member of, and travelled to the USA to shooting competitions. Bryn took a 5-point masjor on his first show weekend stateside and was well on his way to his American championship when back problems forced his retirement from the show ring. Bryn sired several litters in BC, then retired, except for a brief interlude in 2002, when he sired two more litters. One was with Shadowwalk Kiss'n Tell (Kissi), a Can. & Am. Ch. That I leased from Shadowwalk kennels. For the other I bred him to his granddaughter Waibourne's Kite At Dawn (Kite). Charity was bred and in Nov. 1994 had 4 males and 1 female, sired by Can. Ch. Edward Kimball Carey (KC) owned by Karen and Howard Slutsken. Charity's second litter (4M, 2F) came in Feb. 1996, the sire being Am. Ch. Talbot's Sierra Buckaroo (Bucky). I kept Can. Ch. Waibourne's Buck's Kin Jamie (Jamie), who finished in October 1997. I imported a second bitch from New Zealand –*

*Tuahine Salsa Dawn – from Beryl Russell. Salsa both finished and had her first litter (sired by Bryn) in 1996. Waibourne's Cascade Magic (Magic), from this litter, went to the USA, but unfortunately did not work out with her new owner. She came back to Canada and I placed her as a self-trained helper to a disabled friend who lives in Toronto: she has become his reason to survive. Salsa had her second litter (2M, 1F), by Jamie, in April 1998. Salsa had her second litter, by Jamie, in April 1998. I kept the female Waibourne's Umber Dawn (Umber), who was a gorgeous bitch for whom I had high hopes. In 1999 I moved to Alberta, and was living on a ranch. Umber ran in front of a pickup, and lost the end of her tail, thus dashing my hopes for showing her. This girl had a mind of her own, fences were nothing to her, and she was also precocious. At 15 months she had her first heat, waited one day, and, after I was off to work, she climbed into her future mate's pen and decided not to wait. This was the youngest bitch I've bred, and she had 11 puppies, all alive and healthy. The sire was a dog of Cheryl Reist's breeding, Cardiac Geronimo's Express (Nemo), born in 1997. I gave my daughter Kite from this litter. As mentioned earlier, I bred Kite to Bryn in 2003. I kept two, a male - Waibourne's Merri Brenan (Brenan) and a female - Waibourne's Kaci Dawn (Kaci). They are my current (2004) show prospects.*

*In 2002 Beryl Russell and I discussed again about me getting another bitch puppy from her, as she had a very promising litter. Before anything was finalized, she advised me that she had a very promising male, too. I contacted my friends Cheryl Reist and Lore Bruder, with the end result that both pups became Canadians. The bitch - Tuahine Ebony Faerie (Ebony) went to Cheryl, and Lore and I co-owned Tuahine Blue Minstrel (Laser). Laser sired a litter in late 2004, out of Kathryn Osborne's Can. Ch. Finnshavn's Michaels L'Il Minuet (Minuet - Michael x Spankey).*

*At our club's specialty in 2001, Charlie MacInnes allowed his top winning Can. & Am. Ch. Finnshavn's Michael Oarsman (Michael) to retire with me. But there was a condition - I took Can. Ch. Finnshavn's L'Il Rascal (Spankey) west with me, and bred her to Michael. I kept a male, Can. Ch. Finnshavn's Michael's L'Il Mascot, Kathryn bought Minuet, and Charlie kept Can. Ch. Finnshavn Samantha Tillerman. Mascot has a future in my breeding program, too. Corgi Rescue has been an ongoing part of my life since coming to Alberta, but fortunately very few Cardigans have been involved.*

Charlie reports that Samantha has produced wonderful puppies. Two deserve special mention. Can. & Am. Ch. Finnshavn Eleanor Black (call name Brie), and her full sister Ch. Finnshavn Bubble Gum Moxie. Moxie you will learn more about below. Brie won BOB at the CCCC National Specialty in 2008. Kathryn Osborne bred Minuet to Laser, and Charlie got pick puppy, Sterling, who is, in 2008, Ch. Dressnup Sterling Blu Minstrel HT, Can. & Am. CD, Am. RN, CGN, CGC, TDI.

At the CWCCA specialty in California in 1989, Charlie MacInnes asked Connie Whan to sell him a future stud dog. He gave her full choice over the breeding. A year later, at the National in Atlanta, he asked how the project was coming. Connie said she was running on a dog for him, but was not yet sure he was just right. Charlie was on safari at the time. Karen Harbert flew from San Diego to Toronto in order to ride with Charlie, pulling the Trillium trailer better known as a Varikennel P-800 on wheels. After Atlanta he was headed for the Norwegian Elkhound National in Portland OR (Karen flew home from Salt Lake City), but the route home from Portland took him past Connie's farm, so he stopped in for a visit. Now, Connie and he had

discussed over the years how difficult it was to breed a good sable Cardigan. Charlie had a special liking for the colour, because his first Cardigan, Dai Morgan (as well as his sire) were well-marked sables. Connie took Charlie back to the kennel to show off the dog she had saved for him. The first words out of his mouth were “You didn’t tell me he was sable!” This was Jasper, known officially as Can., Am., Mex., & Int. Ch. Davenitch English Toffee. Jasper had been mostly in the kennel, so he was quite shy on the way back to Finnshavn. However, he soon gained confidence, and became one of the most beloved dogs at Finnshavn. His puppies were very successful in Canadian and US shows during the 1990’s. He was eventually co-owned with Karen Harbert so that he and his son could be shown as a brace. They were stunning – matched sables! The son, Cobol, aka Pond Scum (Am. & Can. Ch. Aelwyd Pirate Program Can. CD – Jasper x Am. & Can. Ch. Finnshavn’s Myfanwy), won a puppy group in Canada, and then the 1995 CCCC Specialty in Calgary.

On one of the early Walk-A-Dog-Athons to raise money for the school training guide dogs for the blind, Charlie MacInnes and Fanny Edwards were joined by a lady walking an Akita. Shelley Camm eventually bought Can. Ch. Finnshavn Disglaircr Ceinoig (Can. Ch. Markwell’s Silas Marner x Can., Am., & Bda. Ch. Bawyni’s Sweet Molly McGee) in 1989. Penny grew up herding a litter of Irish Wolfhound puppies, which produced on her a rear of epic musculature. Shelley has bred on and off, under the kennel name Yasashiikuma, which came from her Akita days. Shelley enjoyed some early success, then, as with too many dog people, her life took a downturn and she did not return to active showing and breeding until the late 1990s. She purchased Can. & Am. Ch. Merrymoon Firestorm, aka Hunter (Can. & Am. Phi-Vestavia’s Pirate’s Patch x Can. Ch. Phi-Vestivia Unforgettable) from Barb Hoffman in 1996, and got back on her feet.

Shelley Camm contributed this:

*My interest in purebred dogs actually started with a Japanese Akita which is where the kennel name Yasashiikuma (Gentle Bear) came from. My dog was shown by Sue Bain which is how I was introduced to my second Cardigan, the first being a blue dog I competed against in obedience.*

*The first Cardigan in my home was Penny (Ch. Finnshavn Disglaircopr Ceinoig) a girl who truly exemplified the versatility of the Cardigan. Penny not only competed in Conformation but also did Obedience, Therapy Work, Flyball and had an acting career at the same time. Penny, as with future generations of Yasashiikuma Cardigans, grew up surrounded by Wolfhounds, and enjoyed employing her natural instinct to try and herd her giant friends.*

*Penny was bred to Can. & Am. Ch. Tesseract’s Pete of Santana and produced my Valentine’s litter which included Rudolph Valentino and Heart of Gold (Candy) who won best Brace at the 1993 National Specialty in Cornwall.*

*Candy was bred to another Peter son Can. & Am. Ch. Ch Markwell’s Matthew Cuthbert and this litter produced three champions – Ch. Yasashiikuma Cinnamon Heart (Abbey), Ch. Yasashiikuma Peg O’My Heart (Peggy) and Ch. Yasashiikuma Heartbreak Kid (Brandy) who was Best of Opposite in Puppy Sweeps at the 1996 National in Markham.*

*In 1996 Hunter (Can. & Am. Ch. Merrymoon Firestorm) joined my household and he was later bred to Abbey twice – the first litter producing Ch. Yasashiikuma Briardon Yehudit (Judith) who*

won all her points at club boosters. The second litter produced Ch. Yasashiikuma Spiced Rum (Megan).

Hunter was also bred to the Am National Specialty winner Am. Ch. Phi Vestavia Good Gracious (Gloria) and from that breeding Gale (Phi-Vestavia Storm of Yasashiikuma) joined my household.

Gale was bred to Brandy and from this litter came Ch. Yasashiikuma Obsidian (Lacey) and Ch. Yasashiikuma Weetartan Sedalia (Ruby).

Megan and Gale were both bred to Can. & Am. Ch. Phi-Vestavia Uriel of Caerleon (Toby) and these litters produced Ch. Yasashiikuma Sabra and Ch. Yasashiikuma Scirocco (Rocky) who was Reserve Winners Bitch and Best Puppy at the 2004 National.

The next year Megan was bred to Can & Am. Ch. McLea's Admiral by a frozen semen breeding, producing Ch. Yasashiikuma Fire and Ice (Cinder).

Unfortunately health issues caused me to take a hiatus from breeding and showing for a couple of years, but in 2006 I now have a litter sired by Am/Cdn Ch. Kingsbury's I'm Harry P and hope to re-enter the show ring later this year. Unfortunately 2006 has brought me full circle and the wonderful old lady who started it all had to be put to sleep just shy of 17 years, as her great great grandchildren reached the age of 5 weeks.

Lore Bruder of Pincher Creek, Alberta, (Bluetrix) contributed the following:

*"My first introduction to the breed was a Cardigan x Border collie cross on a ranch 25 miles west of Stavely, not that far from the Cross (a7) ranch. He was such a delight. Ed and Ottilie Nelson had 8 children, so the house was never quiet. The dog (whose name I cannot remember) would let us kids dress him up, put him in the doll carriage, paint his nails, and generally every thing a young girl would do to a doll. Then Ed would call him and off came the clothes and out to the corral to do a day's work! As I got older and became useful around the corral I truly learned the value of a good thinking dog. I would have been from 7 to 15 in those times. I subsequently owned a few interesting cross breeds, the best being a Rough collie x Doberman cross who lasted 15 years. Then one day I found I had no dog, and enough funds for the pure bred Cardigan corgi that I had been dreaming about since the early 60s. It was 1990.*

*Several phone calls later I was off to Ontario, the first of many journeys that would be based on Cardigan corgis, the stealers of hearts! The first stop was at Charlie and Fanny's house – as those of you who have been there will know, I was overwhelmed, but alas, there were no puppies that were ready to fit my needs. Remember, at this point I really did not give a hoot about colour or size, I wanted a farm dog. Robin Bruton had a litter ready and the dam had been used in their business of raising purebred bulls. Contee's A Tiny T (Tia, Just Call Me Wrangler CDX x Finnshavn's Flying Nun) came back to the west with me. A short time later Finnshavn's Crotalus Atrox (Rattler – Finnshavn's Alexander Selkirk x Trailwyn Handy Mandy in Oz) came, and Charlie talked me into going to a show. Someone was to meet me in Red Deer and show me the ropes, but they never appeared. The entries were paid, new clothes purchased, dogs brushed, so in we went. The new clothes were matching green jeans and we thought we looked great –WRONG! The dogs were well brushed, not bathed, long nails, thick leather collars*

*and leather leads, hey, they looked great for ranch country! The ring steward on the first day was either a saint or a masochist as she and then later the judge (I did not think to get their names) spent a lot of time (and Rick's money) getting us organized. No matter what people say about dog showing I have found that most of those involved are more than helpful if approached kindly! The corgis have been spending my money and taking all my free time ever since.*

*Rattler met with an early demise trying to herd the neighbors' kids away from a large gravel truck, reinforcing to me their bravery beyond reason. By then I wanted to raise some pups. Caerphilly Blue Mordred (aka Spuddie, Ch. Aberwyvern Wagner x Beckrow Black Madonna) came to me by chance. I wanted a boy for Tia, and Spuddie needed a home fast as the new baby in his family was allergic. Now Spuddie never was a great cow dog, he played vocal back up for the girls, but what a show dog! One day at the Lethbridge shows, in group, the judge (fast Eddy) pointed to me, then the entrance, so with head held high and proud of my dogs showing I went to leave. I was stopped and put in second place – after that it was a blur. That weekend we got a 2<sup>nd</sup> and two 4ths in Group, I was hooked, and trust me, the dog did it on his own as I still had not been to the Sue Bain school of grooming and handling. (Spuddie was still a puppy that weekend.) He started his showing by winning a puppy sweeps and ended it by winning veteran sweeps. He was a joy to have known and it was an honour to have him be part of my life and my breeding program.*

*Charlie MacInnes sent me a slip of a pup called Finnshavn's Patch of Trouble (Patches – Can., Am., Mex. & Int. Ch. Davenitch English Toffee x Ch. Finnshavn Here Is Trouble). She was no show dog, but a bossy, curly-wiry-coated crank! Charlie sent her to me because, at five weeks, she would herd her litter mates into a corner of the puppy pen, and stand in the middle of the pen grinning and wagging. He thought she had what it takes for a ranch dog. Patch has saved my life a few times and to me she is what I remember the old corgi cross being. Able to think on her own, braver than a Roman legionnaire and loyal beyond words. She and Spuddie made several wonderful show dogs, loving pets, and some great cow dogs. She has great mothering traits, which she showed to all her pups and everybody else's' pups. But the day she tried to mother a day old lamb was when I realized she would mother a rock if it needed her. Being from a ranching community, mother ability is foremost in our minds.*

*After more years than I care to mention, Cardigans still amaze me in their ability to observe the situation and figure out who it is that needs them most. Fearless in defending their own, kind to those who are down, and thinking at all times. When a bovine backs into some bush and refuses to come out it can be a real trick to get it out to where the humans can deal with it. The Cardigan has this figured out “No Problem”. Just run figure eights and leap to nip the cow's nose on the way by and sooner or later they get pissed off and will run to get the dog! That's when the rider can get in behind and start moving the animal in the desired direction. The first time I saw this was with Patches and a Saler Cross bull that was on the fight. There was no way I was getting off my horse and the bull had to come in before winter. Patches ran eight's, and bit his face until the blood was flowing. Eventually he charged out of the bush after her, and suddenly she was on his heels, biting again! I think the figure eight pattern instead of just a dive and run is intended to keep up momentum and to confuse the cow, as they are not sure where the dog is coming from next. I have always said that a dog not willing to go to a head will never turn a cow. Cows are not sheep, they are bigger, faster, meaner, smarter and a hell of a lot more dangerous. Trust me, 2,000 pounds for a bull and 1,300 for an average cow, you do not want to play pushey-pulley with cattle . . . you will lose!*

*Druid is truly my hero. (Ch. Bluetrix Druids Dream – Ch. Caerphilly Blue Mordred x Finnshavn's Patch of Trouble) Besides being stunning to look at, she is fearless when the chips are down. In the corral late one evening, with Rick gone to work for night shift, a quiet cow that we had brought in because of a prolapse had dropped her calf, and the calf landed with its head underneath. That is a sure-fire death sentence. Seeing that it was a quiet cow, I just went in to give the newborn a little tug to get the head upside. WHAM – into the corral boards I went. Down the boards in the corner, with the cow's head in the arch of my back and rubbing (remember – 1,300 pounds!). “Don't let go of the corral - if she gets you down – you are toast!” is running through my mind. It hurts. Next thing I know there is Druid hanging off the cow's cheek with this crazy cow shaking for all she was worth. Druid looked like a rag, while I leapt up and over. Called my dog, and we both lay on the dirt (outside the corral) for a while. I was smarting from my rubbing, and Druid was missing a tooth. (Note – the scissors bite is very important!). It only takes once that a dog literally saves your life and you will love that dog forever no matter how much hair she leaves on your truck seat.*

*Keeper (Ch. Bluetrix Son of Spuddie Wind - Ch. Caerphilly Blue Mordred x Finnshavn's Patch of Trouble) went east to work the show circuit when he was two. Sue Bain said she had to take some muscle off his rear (by restricting exercise) before he would gait like a good show dog. In his two years at the shows he earned xx Group Placements. He came home looking great but a little soft. The big problem was that he did not want to get dirty – it took me six months to convince him to roar through the mud and dung to do his cow-dog job. It was a sight to see this dog going nicely behind the cows until they went through the mud and this pretty blue dog would go around! Now that he is over that he has taken to doing the running leap, roll in mid-air, slide through the fresh manure so the green stripe can go from tip to tail starting on the right and ending on the left. His father Spuddie actually stood under a cow's rear and let her dump nice fresh green grass manure on him. Spuddie was so proud he wore that like a coat of armour till we got back to the house and I took the hose to him. I do not care how long the pedigree, a good roll in dead or manure is Chanel # 5. Back to Keeper the cow dog. Not only did it take him six months to get over the “stay clean, you @#%” of his show dog days, it took about that long to get him back in working condition. I help on some of the larger ranches, and he has to follow a herd sometimes for 8 hours. Not only does this mean being hard as rock, he had to learn to take it easy. Once the cows are roused out of the bush, they should be driven at a walk, not a mad run. Not only is that better for the cows, it means that the dog can build up energy for the next hard work. Keeper at six is a useful drover, but not as fiery as his mother!”*

Through the 1990s, Charlie MacInnes and Sue Bain campaigned Can. & Am. Ch. Finnshavn's Michael Oarsman (Can. & Am. Ch. Markwell's Matthew Cuthbert x Can. Ch. Thistledown Red Russet), and Lore Bruder's Can. Ch. Bluetrix Son of Spuddie Wind (Can. Ch. Caerphilly Blue Mordred x Finnshavn's Patch of Trouble). Both were moderately successful.

In 1994, Al and Lynn Alcock came to Finnshavn looking for breeding stock. Al picks up the narrative:

*“For 20 years prior to being involved with Cardigans we raised and bred Beagles until the last of our at homers left in 94. We had been involved with a Cardigan while we were in Germany in the early 70's. He came from Wales, but unfortunately I can't remember his breeder*

*or pedigree name. He did not belong to us but we often cared for him when his owners were away. His name was Jocko.*

*As you know Lynn and I got our start from Finnshavn ten years ago with Ch. Finnshavns Alynns Ruby Red TD (Bubbles) (from Ch. Markwell's Peer Gynt x CH Finnshavn Life on the Center); and, Finnshavn Alynns Black Diamond TD (from CH Finnshavn's Michael Oarsman x Ffallian Finnshavn Lisbeth). Bubbles became our foundation bitch whelping two litters from Ch. Robinhood's Dusty Diamond - Byron (whom we got in 96, from Can. & Am. Ch. Markwell's Matthew Cuthbert x Finnshavn Goodness Gracious Me). Ch. Brymist Flaming Garnet (Maggie) was brought into the picture in 97 (bred by Jane Barfoot, from Ch. Finnshavn's Selkirk Junior x Finnshavn Spot of Luck). From there all our litters have carried the Welgem name (meaning Wel = Welsh; gem = for gemstone). Byron sired five litters before he injured his back and was retired at the age of five. One particular breeding between Byron and Ch. Welgem's Fiery Opal - Rosie produced Welgem's Red Moonstone (Charlie) who at the age of 7 months won a BPIS. Both Bubbles and Squeaky achieved their tracking titles here in the Yukon at 3 years of age the same weekend. In fact Bubbles carries the honour of being the first dog in the Yukon to earn a tracking title. To date we have whelped 8 litters and of course we are far from establishing our own line. We have nevertheless produced some excellent specimens to the standard. We recently added two new pups to the kennel (now totalling ten dogs), Ch. Finnshavn Yukon d'Or Brandy (Brandy, from Ch. Ritchi-Bubble-Gum de la Caverne des Anges x Ch. Finnshavn Red Hot Chili Pepper). While the tally on Brandy is not final yet for 2003 she likely will finish in the top 3 for Cardigans in Canada with 7 group placements and 16 BOB in the same number of shows. The last addition is Aelwyd Welgem Apache Tears - Katie from Am. Ch. Aelwyd Golygus Kokopelli x Am. Ch. Su-Ets Aelwyd Madam Mim. At the moment our main stud dog is Ch. Welgem's Ruby's Son Shine from Bubbles and Byron. He has sired four litters, producing strong and muscular offspring, especially in the males.*

*Anyway our two cents worth, other than noting that our whelps have found their way from Anchorage, Alaska - through the panhandle, BC all the way down to California and as far east as PEI, NS and NB.*

At the CWCCA National in Kansas City MO (1996), Charlie MacInnes acquired Redbud's Mr. Goodbar (Hershey - Am. Ch.. Sisterwood Challenge O' Heart x Redbud's Birthday Cake) from Jane Walser. Hershey had, to 2004, sired only one litter, but one dog from that - Finnshavn Prince Owen - sold to John & Beatrix Krug, has done well. He finished his Canadian Championship in 5 shows, including a fourth in group. He sired a litter from Can. Ch. Finnshavn Chelsea Trouble, and four puppies from that seemed destined for great things. Can. Ch. Finnshavn Euphrasia (Bright) won 12 points in 3 days in Calgary in 2004. John Krug's daughter Maja received the stud fee - Finnshavn Manitoulin Monti as a gift from her parents, and she and Monti joined the show and obedience worlds, including flying to Whitehorse for the 2004 specialty.

Two Cardigans won all-breed Bests in Show in the 1990s. First was Am. & Can. Ch. Kingsbury's Carbon Copy (Am. Ch. Chimera Vestavia Cub Run x Am. Ch. Redbuds Facsimile, bred and owned by Jacque Schatz of Muskogee, Oklahoma, shown by Don Glenn), who won 5 BIS in Thompson and Winnipeg MB in 1997(?) She holds the world-wide record for BIS by one Cardigan, and earned more BIS awards than all other Cardigans added together (up to that time) in both the USA and Canada. The second BIS winner was Am. & Can. Ch. McLea's Admiral

(Am. & Can. Ch. Phi-Vestavia Nautilus x Am. Ch. McLea's Allie), bred owned and showed by Leah James), who won on 6 July 1997, at the Sarnia Kennel Club show, the day after he won the CCCC National. He had also earned a Best in Show in the USA.

When the CWCCA National was in Andover Mass in 1998, Charlie MacInnes met Mair Jones-Rees, whose Gwenlais dogs were well known in Britain for at least three decades. Charlie invited Mair to visit Canada on her next visit to North America. The opportunity came when the CWCCA show was in Lancaster PA in 2000. Mair asked on ShowCardi-L what the nearest international airport was for Lancaster, and how one would get from there to Lancaster. Charlie replied that she should fly in to Toronto, and ride with him. He wanted company on the road as he pulled his trailer to Lancaster. Mair spent two weeks in Canada as well as the week in the USA. She became addicted to Tim Horton's coffee. She showed dogs at the Victoria County Kennel Club, including finishing a Swedish vallhund puppy bred and owned by Ulla Gamberg. Now, Charlie knew that Mair bred some of the best marked sable Cardigans in Britain, so he asked for a good one. The trouble, said Mair, was that she was not planning a sable breeding for at least two years. Then she said that she had sold a nice sable bitch to a breeder in France. Late that fall she e-mailed Charlie to put in a bid on a pup called Ritchi ASAP, as there was interest in him from four European countries. So Charlie contacted Jocelyne Thomas, and in February 2001 Ritchi-Bubble-Gum de la Caverne des Anges arrived in Canada. Ritchi finished his championship as a puppy, and was specialled for two seasons. His real success, however, is as a sire. His influence will be felt for many years to come.

The next independent specialty set the tone for a new millennium. It occurred in the summer of 2000 on the ball diamonds in Cardigan, Prince Edward Island. The really notable feature of this show was the participation of the Island dog show community. The superintendent and show secretary were islanders; the Community Council of Cardigan, led by Noel Wilson, did all they could to help; and judges from all over the maritime provinces drove over to watch the show. Our judge was Cheryl Myers-Egerton, who was the CKC director for the region at the time. We borrowed a truck from the Cardigan Fire Department as backdrop for the show photographs, and we had the after-show dinner at the Cardigan Lobster Supper. Where straw bales held up the ring boundary ropes in Pincher Creek, on the Island the posts were lobster pots. Exhibitors to both these shows came from all over the continent, from California, Texas and Florida, and from all over Canada, including the Yukon. We offer an informal prize for the exhibitor who has travelled farthest to get to the show. In PEI we had entries from San Diego, From Austin, Texas, and from southern Florida. Who won the most-travelled trophy – Al Alcock from Whitehorse, by over 1000 km!!

The weekend following the PEI specialty, at the New Brunswick Kennel Club shows, CCCC staged a judges education session on Cardigans. From the discussion generated, this was a very worthwhile effort.

On 4 and 6 July 2003, in Portage La Prairie MB, Cardigans contributed to a small piece of Canadian dog show history. On 4 July, under Mr. Leslie Rogers, the placings in the herding group were – First – the Pembroke Corgi, second the Swedish Vallhund, and third, the Cardigan corgi (Can. & Am. Ch. Pencader O'r Diwedd ap Adair – Charlie, Bred by Chris & Russ Edwards, owned by Irenne Bader and Chris Edwards, shown by Geri Taylor). Best puppy in Group, and Best Puppy in Show went to a baby, just a week over 6 months old, Finnshavn Solstice Dungaree (Can. Ch. Ritchi-Bubble-Gum de la Caverne des Anges x Can. Ch.

Finnshavn's L'Il Rascal). 'Dungers' was bred by Charlie MacInnes, owned by Kaye Langshawe, and shown by Sue Bain. His BPIS was the first earned by a Finnshavn dog. On Sunday, under judge Letitia Bett, the three breeds repeated the feat, except that this time the Cardigan was Can. Ch. Ritchi-Bubble-Gum de la Caverne des Anges. Dungers won the puppy group, but not the show!

The real record-setter among specialties was the 2004 show, an independent held in Whitehorse, capital of the Yukon. This was the first National specialty for any breed held north of 60°, in either Canada or the USA. Exhibitors were welcomed by the mayor of Whitehorse (sweepstakes day) and the Commissioner of the Yukon, complete with bagpiper, on the day of the specialty itself. The entry was large, especially considering the difficulty and expense of getting all the way to Whitehorse. The two Alaskan breeders were enchanted to have a specialty on their doorstep. Al Alcock and his crew of local Cardigan owners put on a fabulous show. One highlight was a full sized quilt covered with Cardigans – for the fund-raising auction. Immediately following the specialty there were six Yukon Kennel Club shows. Cardigans were the most numerous breed in each show, and the breed winners fared well in the group.

At the CCCC 2004 eastern booster at the SD&G show Barb Hoffman's Merrymoon dogs set a record which will be very hard to beat. Best Puppy in Show the day of the booster went to Merrymoon Noblestar Outrageous (Can. & Am. Ch. Merrymoon Pluperfect Pony Express x Can. & Am. Ch. Merrymoon Noblestar My Girl), aka Lucy, owned by a professional handler, Connie O'Brien of Silverstone Irish Steers and Welsh Springers, of Mountain, ON, and Kathy Smith, Cymry Pembroke Welsh Corgis and Welsh Springers, of Milton VT. This represented the third generation of breeding to earn BPIS at this show. Merrymoon Noblestar My Girl – 'Vayda' (Can. & Am. Ch. Mazara Merrymoon Reggae Bob x Can. & Am. Ch. Merrymoon Noblestar Hot Ice) won BPIS two years earlier, and then won another at the Cornwall shows a week later. Her sire, Mazara Merrymoon Reggae Bob had won BPIS in his day, too, the first awarded to a male Cardigan. Earlier in 2004, another generation scored, this time a brown brindle stud fee dog puppy from Sue Burchill of Jazsita Kennels in Brockville, Ont., Jazsita Affirmative Action, aka "Duncan" out of Can. & Am. Ch. Chandler-Pluperfect-Prophecy (a Merrymoon Noblestar Jacob son), and CanCh.Merrymoon Love At First Sight gave Merrymoon their 4th BPIS award at the Limestone K.C. under judge Cheryl Myers-Egerton, the PEI, CCCC Specialty judge. Duncan is a Ch.Mazara Merrymoon Reggae Bob great-grandson. Merrymoon has so far outscored all other Cardigans in Canada by winning 5 BPIS, to everyone else's 2!

***Charlie MacInnes***  
***Finnshavn***  
***R.R. 3, Stn Main***  
***Stouffville ON L4A 7X4.***

This history has many authors, as I have tried to highlight. I thank all the contributors. I also want to thank Joyce Moulton for sharing her knowledge of the west coast scene, and for her efforts to find all the early Cardigans in the CKC stud book. If any reader can identify missing dogs or events for me, such will be included. One of the benefits of the internet is the ease of updating any story.

Corr. 3 Sept. 2012/ANo